

Iraqi president shows no willingness to negotiate and renews call for a holy war against US

Arabs urged to topple Fahd and Mubarak

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday turned against his former allies with a call for Arabs and Muslims to topple King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Mubarak of Egypt.

Showing no indication that he was willing to negotiate a peaceful end to the confrontation in the Gulf, he renewed his call for a holy war against America. Five million Iraqis were ready to fight and were sure of victory if America attacked.

Iraqi children were dying as a result of the UN trade embargo aimed at forcing him out of the Gulf. "They are starving a whole people to death," he said. The Arab masses, particularly the dispossessed, should rise up against their corrupt leaders who were being manipulated by the devil." Singing out King Fahd and Mr Mubarak, he said: "We call on them (the people) to revolt against their rulers and traitors."

In his last speech a week ago, President Saddam had appealed to Mr Mubarak in respectful terms to help him to confront Saudi Arabia. The change of tack showed he was running out of options, while at the same time was unwilling to make any concessions to the international community.

Yesterday's speech, read on Baghdad television by a spokesman, came as the Iraqi foreign minister, Tariq Aziz, flew to Moscow for talks with President Gorbachev, and as King Husain of Jordan arrived in Baghdad. Both mis-

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British hostage accuses embassy

The Foreign Office and the British embassy in Kuwait are accused of complicity and inefficiency in a letter to *The Times* today from a British woman interned by the Iraqis after attempting to escape from Kuwait. Kristy Norman says the embassy was advising Britons to remain in their homes when they knew escape was possible.

sions were designed to try to find a regional solution before the US-Soviet summit on Sunday, but President Saddam's remarks suggested they had little chance of success.

He said Israel had driven

America to act against Iraq

and declared: "This is a war

between right and wrong."

Mr Baker yesterday again floated the idea of a Middle East regional security structure to contain Iraq once its troops were ousted from Kuwait. In appearances before the House and Senate foreign affairs committees over the past two days, Mr Baker gave only an outline of his thinking, but suggested that such a security structure would involve "major Arab participation" backed by a long-term American military presence in the region, probably naval.

It would seek a new equilibrium and balance of power in the region and would involve a continued international arms embargo against Iraq and the strengthening of the military forces of moderate Arab nations.

Britain is believed to be in general agreement with the United States on the probable need to retain at least some forces in the region after an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, depending on Gulf states asking them to stay.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is understood to have noted a change of mood during his tour of nine Middle East cities, where it had previously been assumed that Western forces would never again be welcome in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, the search for a diplomatic solution continued with the arrival of Tariq Aziz in Moscow, the second visit by a senior Iraqi official since the invasion of Kuwait.

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Surprisingly, President Saddam made no direct reference to the American secretary of state, James Baker, who on Tuesday told Congress that American forces might remain in the Middle East after the crisis as part of a new regional security order. That suggestion was, however, the subject of harsh criticism in the Iraqi media earlier in the day when the state-run news agency said

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Cancer patients at holistic centre 'are more likely to die'

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN with breast cancer who receive alternative therapy at a centre in Bristol as well as orthodox treatment are more likely to die than patients undergoing conventional treatment only, according to a study to be published in *The Lancet* tomorrow.

The study, which could be a significant setback for alternative medicine in Britain, showed that patients attending the Bristol Cancer Help centre were three times as likely to suffer a relapse, with the cancer spreading to other parts of the body. In addition, women whose cancer had already started spreading when they arrived at the centre were twice as likely to die as women who went only to national health service hospitals. Researchers from the Institute of Cancer Re-

search, who carried out the study jointly with the centre using control groups at the Royal Marsden, Sutton, Surrey, and two other hospitals in the South-East, said that they were baffled by the results.

They did concede, however, that psychological factors predisposing certain women to attend the centre may have influenced the results. A separate study to assess the emotional state and attitudes of women before they attend the centre, compared to patients undergoing orthodox treatment only, is now being carried out.

The centre, which sees about 1,000 patients a year, offers a treatment based on relaxation and meditation, psychological counselling, spiritual healing and a diet of

mainly vegetarian organically grown foods. Many doctors refer patients there in the belief that it helps people to adopt a more positive outlook to their disease. Patients attend for a day or a week, with fees ranging from £100 to £600 and about half of them return for further treatment.

The study compared 334 breast cancer patients who attended the centre for the first time between June 1986 and October 1987 with 461 patients from the Royal Marsden, the Crawley hospital, West Sussex, and New Royal Surrey County hospital, Guildford, Surrey. All the women were followed until June 1988.

Professor Clair Chivers, who led the research team, told a press conference that other factors may have influenced the results. The stringent diet recommended by the centre may have been followed too rigorously when patients were at home, so that they lost too much weight. Alternatively, the women who attended the Bristol centre could, in a subtle way, have had a more advanced cancer than patients undergoing orthodox treatment only.

Professor Chivers said that the two groups of women were at the same clinical stage of the disease, and the numbers receiving drug therapy and radiotherapy were similar.

Although the Bristol group was, on average, younger than the control group and more had had mastectomies, there was no scientific evidence that this would affect the aggressiveness of the disease, she said.

There was also no evidence that patients at the centre had delayed going back to their consultant when they had suspected a relapse.

The finding is consistent with that of other researchers who in post-mortem examinations have found that some cot-death babies do have a number of blood vessels that bypass the lungs.

Dr Southall and his colleagues are testing a treatment based on their findings.

The treatment involves the drug tetrabenazine, which prevents the production of noradrenalin by the brain, and the use of oxygen to counter the low blood-oxygen levels.

Of 15 patients treated all showed improvements and in most cases the attacks were eliminated.

Doctors may have clue to cot deaths

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A MECHANISM that explains why some babies die suddenly has been discovered by three British doctors. The discovery could be a big step towards understanding cot deaths, which claim the lives of 2,000 babies in Britain every year.

The doctors examined infants prone to sudden attacks in which they turn blue and lose consciousness. A sudden shock, pain, or moment of fear triggers the attack in which the amount of oxygen in the blood drops, causing loss of consciousness. The findings were published this week in *Archives of Disease in Childhood*.

Dr David Southall and Dr Martin Samuels, from Bromley hospital, and Dr David Talbert, of the Royal Post-graduate medical school, studied 51 infants with a history of attacks. In most cases the attacks began when the child was awake and was surprised

or alarmed in some way, provoking a cry or an attempt to cry.

Blood vessels around the lungs would open and allow blood from the heart to bypass the lungs where it normally picks up oxygen. As a result, the blood quickly became starved of oxygen, throwing the baby into a coma.

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MP renews call for Aids compensation

By JOHN WINDER

A RENEWED campaign to win compensation for haemophilia sufferers infected with AIDS-contaminated blood will begin when Parliament returns next month.

Alfred Morris, MP for Manchester Wythenshawe and former Labour minister for the disabled, has already tabled a question to Kenneth Clarke, health secretary, for reply on the day the Commons resumes. He wants to know why the government is withholding documents from the victims' legal advisers and if the minister will allow their release.

Efforts to get compensation have foundered because some victims have incomes too high to qualify for legal aid but cannot afford a complicated legal case. The case of Gerald

Hillary, aged 16, who died last year, has already been referred by Mr Morris to William Reid, the health service ombudsman. Mr Reid has said, however, that he cannot act as the Haemophilia Society is already taking legal action.

"Presumably Mr Reid's presumption was that if the society was litigating, it would be on behalf of all. That is not correct," Mr Morris said.

The society was not acting for all cases. Mr Hillary's family cannot afford to fight a legal action and the health department is blocking access to documents required for any proper adjudication by the courts, Mr Morris said. "Only the Ombudsman can penetrate the darkness, because there is no door in Whitehall he cannot open."

Young Vic raises cash to avert closure

By SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ACTORS, audiences, local businesses and residents have helped save the Young Vic Theatre, south London, from closure. A benefit performance held last Sunday of Arthur Miller's *The Man Who Had All The Luck* raised the remainder of the £100,000 needed to keep the theatre open.

The management needed the money for rewiring and other work to meet fire safety requirements so that a new theatre licence could be granted. The theatre was given until the end of the month to raise the money and get work under way. The new fire escape, donated by a welding company, has already been erected this week.

"Donations have ranged from widows' mites to an anonymous draft of £25,000," David Thacker, the theatre's artistic director, said. "It has been a wonderful indication of the point of the theatre - that it is for everyone, the docker, the doctor, the lawyer, the plumber."

The second phase of the appeal, to raise £250,000 for the restoration of the theatre by November 4, was launched yesterday with a contribution of £25,000 from the Equity Trust Fund set up by the actors' union in March.

THE painter Arthur George Carrick missed the preview of his first British one-man exhibition in Salisbury yesterday because of a broken arm, and so did not hear highly encouraging noises from more experienced artists. They all, of course, knew the painter's real identity.

The 63 paintings and three lithographs, the product of four years of snatched moments on overseas tours and long holidays at Balmoral, were done by the Prince of Wales. They have gone on display to aid the Salisbury cathedral spire restoration fund, of which he is president. Using a pseudonym composed of two of his christian names and one of his earldoms to avoid any suggestion of favouritism when submitting work for the 1987 Royal Academy summer exhibition, the prince is now open about his artistic career, which he describes in the catalogue as "one of the most relaxing and therapeutic exercises I know".

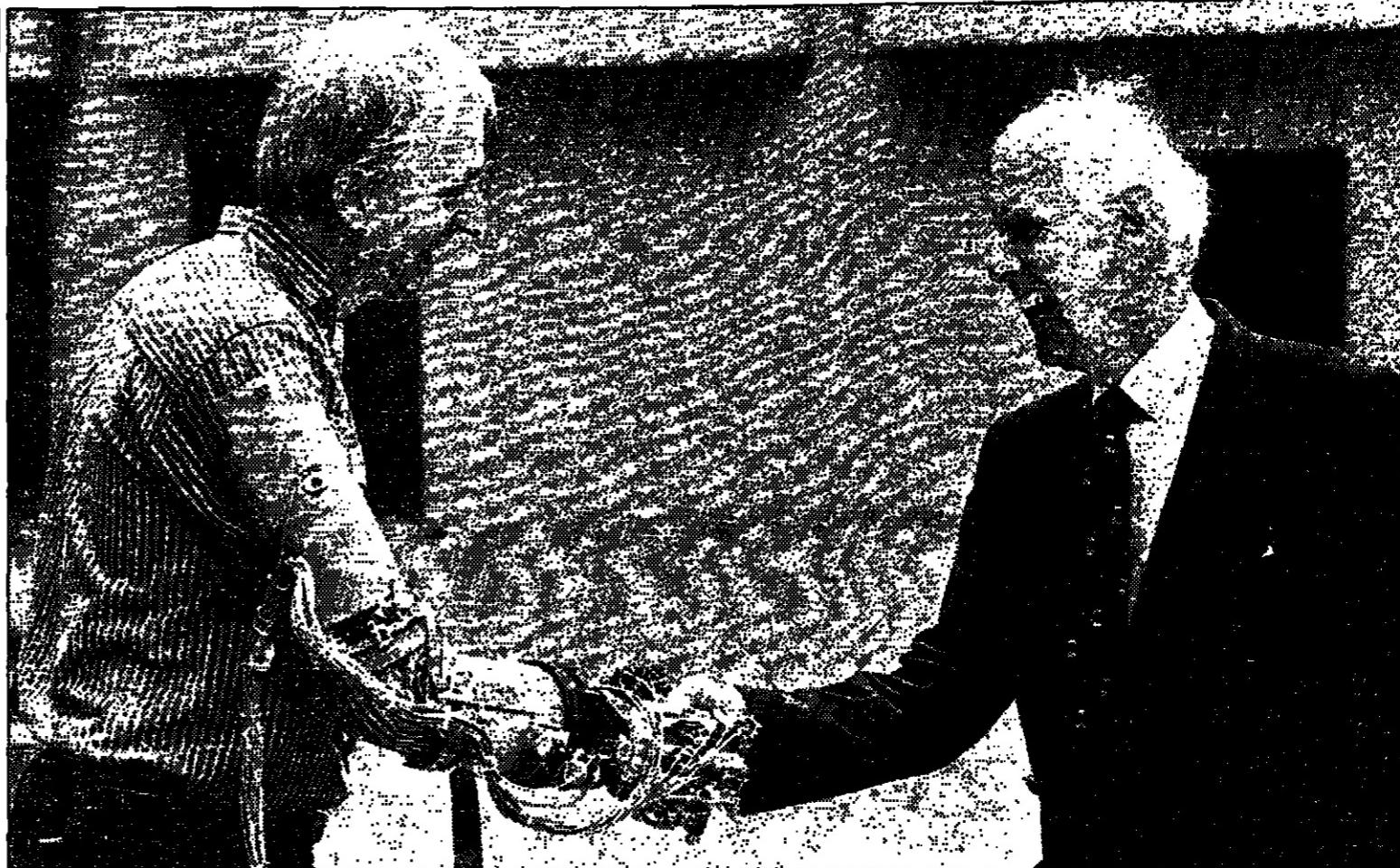
He is, as ever, self-effacing. "I am not exhibiting my sketches because I am under the delusion they represent great art or burgeoning talent.

They represent my particular form of photographic album, and as such mean a great deal to me."

Charles Bartlett, president of the Royal Watercolour Society, said yesterday that the prince was a sensitive artist. He suggested that the prince could tackle paintings in a larger scale than the postcard size to which he largely restricts himself.

Some of the paintings, he said, had an unfinished look (the prince says that he is often dragged away by his staff) but his only serious criticism was that the Italian scenes, many of them executed in the past few months, had been painted with an English eye.

None of the paintings, signed simply "C", is for sale, but three limited-edition lithographs, including a striking one of Windsor Castle just before a thunderstorm, are being offered at £2,600 a print.



Bionic handshake: Richard Greenhill, wearing a data-glove used for training robots to perform hand movements, meets Arthur Callie, a fellow competitor in the first International Robotic Olympics, to take place in Scotland later this month. Over 50 competitors, using the latest developments in computer and engineering technology,

will aim to show that their robots can do more than spray car bodies or weld sheets of metal (Nick Nuttall writes).

The robots, taking part in events organised by the Turing Institute at Strathclyde university, will scale tall buildings, race over rough terrain, swim, ski, mow a lawn and pick up litter. Mechanical participants from

the Soviet Union, Canada, the United States, Japan, Singapore, Mexico, Canada and several European countries are taking part in the event, to be held on September 27 and 28. Duncan Mathews, head of the technology unit at NatWest, one of the sponsors, said:

"Through the fun aspects of the event we hope to heighten public awareness of the potential uses for robots."

Should bad weather stop the games, the organisers can call on Martin Smith, of the East London polytechnic, who was demonstrating Wilberforce, a robotic arm that doubles as a better.

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German plan may change air shows at Farnborough

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE present Farnborough air show, the showcase of the British aerospace industry, may be the last of its kind after pressure from the powerful new German aerospace industry for a European aviation exhibition spectacular.

Frustrated at being denied an effective "shop window" of its own, the German industry, by Deutsche Aerospace, wants a site to be developed in East Germany as the leading air show venue.

Its proposals, still to be worked out in detail, could lead to air shows being rotated on a tri-annual basis between Paris, Farnborough and the new East German site. They are to be discussed at the end of the month by representatives of the nine European nations with aviation interests.

The German move to bring future air shows under a single European "umbrella" follows the abandoning of further events at Hanover, where the show was cancelled after protests about noise and the involvement of military equipment manufacturers.

Jürgen Schrempp, chairman of Deutsche Aerospace, formed last year from a merger of Daimler-Benz, MBB, MTU, AEG, Dornier and Telefunken, said at Farnborough: "We are already looking at sites near East Berlin and in other major cities at present still within East Germany."

One possibility is the development of a large Russian air base near East Berlin once Soviet forces have withdrawn.

"We believe that such a venue could provide a perfect place for East and West to meet, and, because it could be provided in a non-built-up area, it could also have new roads and even a monorail to

get there quickly," Herr Schrempp said.

A major problem with Farnborough and Paris is access by often-congested roads.

The German argument for changing the organisation of the shows will be put to a meeting of the Association Européenne des Constructeurs de Matériel Aéronautique by Johann Schnärr, president of the German aerospace manufacturers' association, the BDLI.

A spokesman for the Society of British Aerospace Companies, which organises the Farnborough show, said: "We suggested some years ago that airshows should rotate between Britain, France, and Germany so that each country held one every three years, but our proposals were turned down by the French who insisted on holding the Paris air show every two years."

He added: "We would certainly consider any proposals about reorganising under a general European umbrella."

The French manufacturers'

UK-Soviet project for helicopter

By OUR AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN and Russia are to work together to produce and market a new passenger helicopter which, it is believed, could be a world-beater by the end of the century.

Rolls-Royce yesterday signed an agreement at the Farnborough air show to provide the engines for a 14-seat helicopter designed by the Soviet Union's Kamov Design Bureau.

The emerging German aerospace industry is determined to raise its profile in Europe and the creation of its own show site is a priority.

A BDLI spokesman said: "We are convinced that the time has come to reorganise air shows on a European basis rather than have wasteful competition. We are looking for a suitable site in the East which would be a great attraction for potential customers from the Eastern Bloc."

"Our main concern is to ensure that German companies have a chance to show their products alongside the British and French, but there is no more room for a direct competitor with Paris or Farnborough.

The first flight is planned for late 1993, with full certification for use through

How to get a piece of British Gas pipeline.

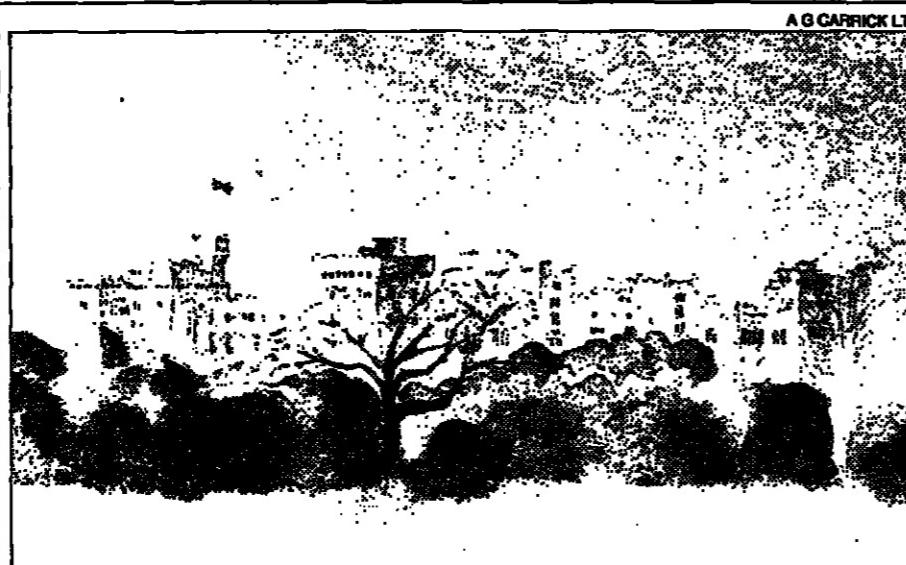
British Gas has produced a revised brochure giving details of its gas transportation services.

With simple guidelines, it explains how independent gas suppliers can utilise the British Gas national pipeline network.

The brochure lists the charges which take effect from 1st October, 1990.

For a copy of the brochure, or more information, phone 071-821 1444 or write to Gas Transportation Services Department, British Gas plc, 100 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1JP.

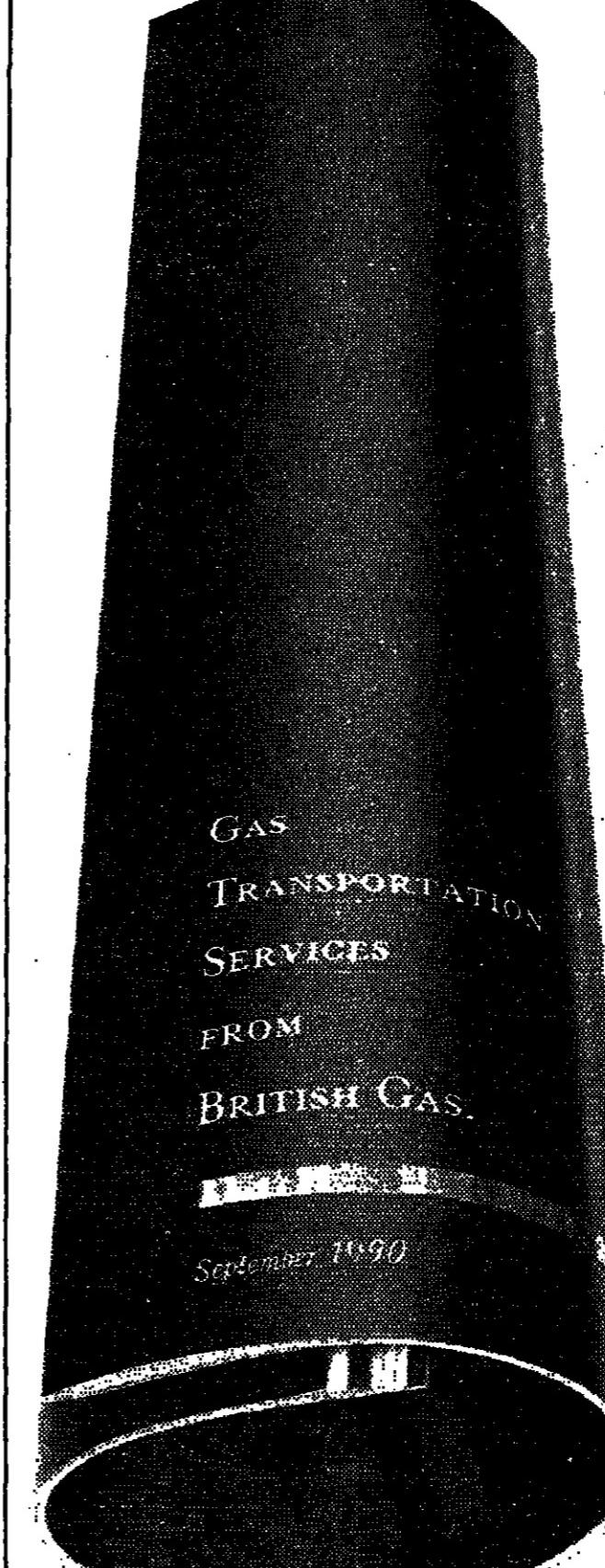
British Gas



A limited edition lithograph based on a water-colour sketch by the Prince of Wales

Critical praise for the prince

By ALAN HAMILTON



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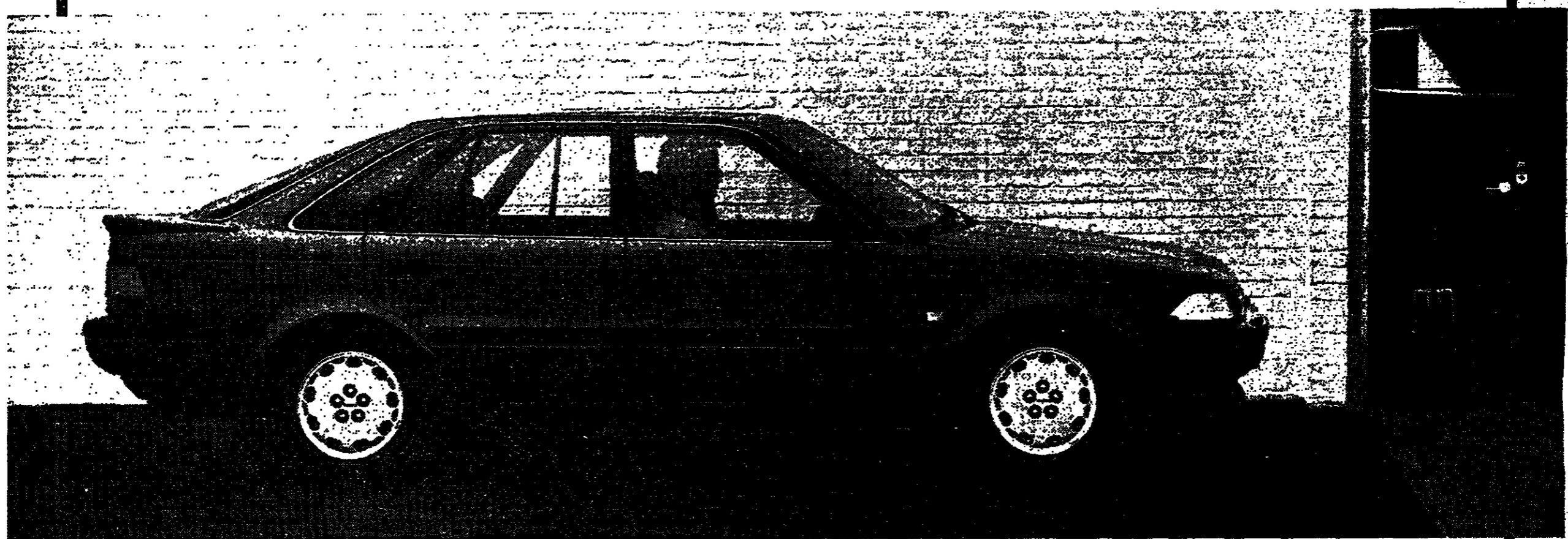
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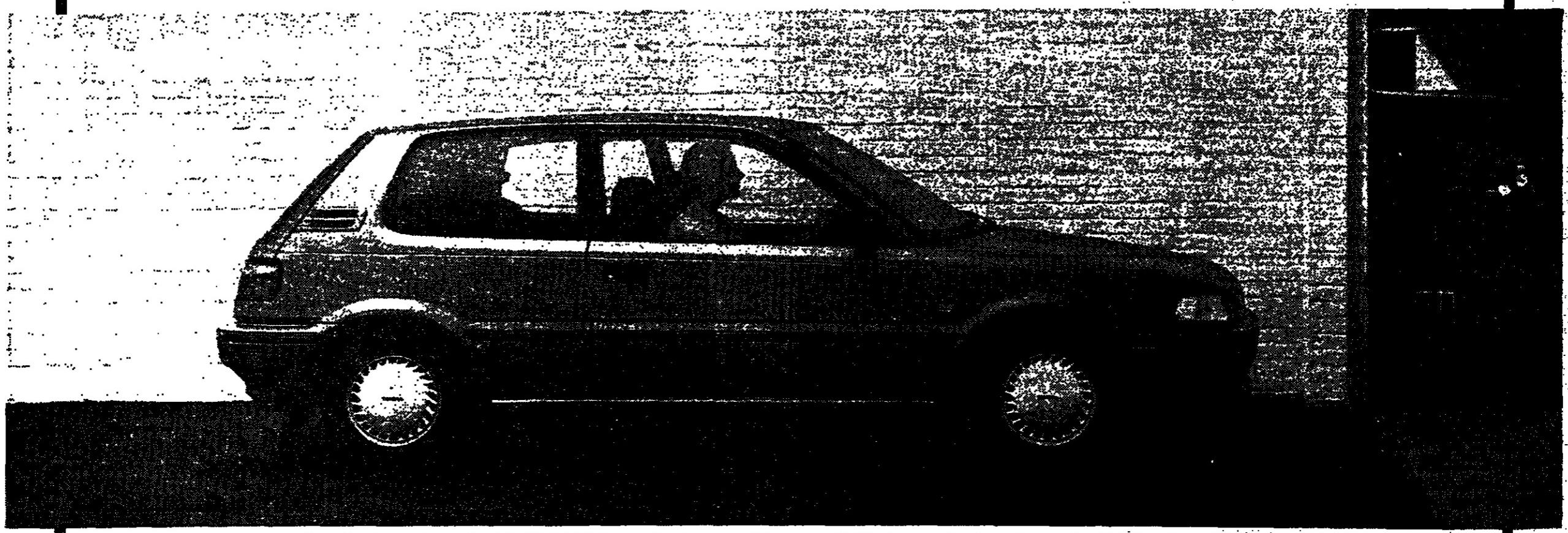
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*Price includes car tax and VAT, but excludes number plates and delivery. Models illustrated, Corolla GL 3 £8,489 & Carina Executive £14,356. Free service offer applies to scheduled intervals only. See dealer for full details. *Auto Option.



It's in the

Estuary development threatens millions of birds, RSPB says



By MICHAEL McCARTHY
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

MILLIONS of internationally significant wading birds and wildfowl are at risk from damaging developments on Britain's estuaries, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said yesterday. Britain is failing in its responsibility to care for an international wildlife heritage, the society said.

Launching a campaign for a national protection strategy, the society said that of 123 major estuaries that had been surveyed (80 per cent of the total), 80 were under some degree of threat and 30 were in imminent danger of sustaining permanent damage, from port and industrial expansion, new marinas, tidal barrages, land reclamation, pollution, recreational activities and even anglers digging for bait. The Nature Conservancy Council said that the findings were optimistic and the threat was far greater.

One and a half million wading birds and half a million wildfowl use the estuaries each year as vital links on migration routes from the Arctic to the southern hemisphere, along what is known as the "East Atlantic

Flyway". Ian Prest, director general of the society, said: "Our estuaries are one of the most important wildlife habitats in the British Isles, yet are often seen as wasteland and therefore subject to exploitation."

Huge numbers of waders, such as knot, dunlin, redshank and sandpiper, converge on the coast in spring and autumn on their way to and from nesting sites as far apart as Canada and Siberia, while great flocks of wildfowl, such as barnacle and brent geese and pintail, used the estuaries as winter feeding grounds.

Mr Prest said that development proposals could mean the loss of a third of these birds, which would be unable to find alternative roosting and feeding grounds if driven away.

The society said 49 estuaries were threatened by recreational pressure, 33 by marinas, 29 by pollution, 29 by proposed land reclamation, 22 by barrages, 17 by bait-digging, 17 by industry, 15 by cockle fishing, 14 by port expansion, eight by sand removal, eight by wildfowling and three by fish farming.

Areas on the danger list included the Thames and related estuaries, where a marina, housing plans, an airport, dock expansion, waste tip-

ping and pollution threaten more than 177,000 wildfowl and waders; the Wash, where industrial development, pollution, an airport and oil refining threaten 260,000 birds; the Mersey, where a proposed tidal barrage and airport extension threaten an internationally important population of about 60,000 birds; and the Dee, in Wales, where 105,000 wildfowl and waders are threatened by waste tipping, port expansion, roads and recreation.

Publishing a report *Turning the tide - a future for estuaries*, the society called for a campaign of government action, based on an integrated national coastal strategy to bring together all the interests concerned. Philip Rothwell, the society's coastal policy officer, said that 33 government departments and related bodies had responsibilities in estuaries, without including local authorities. "The scope for confusion and duplication is obvious," he said.

All developments involving habitat loss in important areas should stop, Mr Rothwell said. All estuaries of special value to wildlife should be given immediate protection by law; local authorities should be given powers to control activities on the shore and water which threatened wildlife; and the government should set an example by giving active support to international measures for protection, such as the European Community birds directive.

"Birds using our estuaries are an international wildlife heritage which the government has an international responsibility to protect. They are now under major threat," Mr Rothwell said.

Art Lance, the society's head of conservation, said that one of the main problems was people's perception of estuaries as smelly, stinking mud. "Mud is seen as an unsightly mess that needs to be covered up," Dr Lance said.

"A large part of society sees it merely as a wasteland just waiting to be put to some productive use. In fact it is a bonanza for wildlife in terms of food."

● John Gummer, the agriculture minister, has accused Friends of the Earth of scaremongering over the level of radiation discharges from the Sellafield nuclear plant in west Cumbria (Ronald Faux writes).

A recent survey by the environmental organisation claimed that

the rivers Lune and Wyre near Lancaster were dangerously contaminated and that radiation in the estuaries was higher than permitted safety levels. Mr Gummer said that data in the survey was "neither appropriate nor responsible".

In a letter to the organisation, Mr Gummer wrote: "You have tried to paint the blackest possible picture from the figures which you have collected, based on hypothetical examples which did not occur in practice." Mr Gummer said that rather than informing people, the environmental group had sought to scare them, to gather support for an anti-Sellafield platform. Friends of the Earth submitted the report to the agriculture ministry, asking that British Nuclear Fuels' licence to discharge radioactive waste into the Irish Sea be revoked. Mr Gummer said that in the Lune and Wyre or any other inter-tidal area in the UK, the department's work had shown radiation levels received by the public to be well below national or international dose limits. Mr Gummer said that Sellafield's discharge levels were less than one-twentieth of those at the end of the 1970s.

Consumer body seeks protection for house buyers

By ROBIN YOUNG

BUYING a house is fraught with avoidable risks, according to the National Consumer Council (NCC). Launching a report being published today, Lady Wilcox, the council chairman, said yesterday that many people buying a home ended up considerably out of pocket.

"When things go wrong, it can be difficult or impossible for the buyer to get compensation," she said. "It is essential that buyers can get accurate information about the property they are buying and the best advice about the right type of mortgage."

The report says that consumers have little chance of redress if they buy a house on the strength of a survey that fails to reveal defects. It says that buyers need a cheap, simple complaints system that removes the need for legal action. The arbitration scheme set up by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is, the report says, little used and excludes surveys done for lenders.

The council urges that the scheme be made compulsory for all institution members and extended to disputes over valuations by surveyors commissioned by lenders. The council regrets that the building societies ombudsman cannot investigate mortgage valuations, and suggests that the Council of Mortgage Lenders set up a scheme to deal with disputes over surveys by lenders' staff.

The council estimates that between £100 million and £200 million a year is lost by consumers who cash in endowment mortgages and take out new ones when moving house, instead of topping up the old policy.

In Edinburgh yesterday, it was claimed the "Canny Scot" who borrows prudently had spared Scotland the level of mortgage arrears seen south of the Border. A press conference was being held to announce that more than half of Scotland's homes were now owned by their occupants.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, said: "The twin attainments of over 200,000 public-sector house sales and over 50 per cent owner occupation are significant milestones."

Mike Provan, chairman of the Scottish liaison committee of the Building Societies Association, said high interest rates were not having the same effect in Scotland because of lower house prices and income multiples and lower borrowing. "In my view, the 'Canny Scot' borrows more prudently," he said.

● House prices slipped again in August, the Halifax Building Society said yesterday. Its index recorded a further 0.4 per cent fall, putting prices 1.8 per cent down on a year ago.

Home Truths: Consumers' experiences of moving house in England and Wales (NCC, 20 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DH, £3.50)

£3bn inner cities revival 'a recipe for confusion'

By SHEILA GUINN, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE government's £3 billion *Action for Cities* initiative is a recipe for confusion and overlap between agencies, a parliamentary watchdog said yesterday.

The Commons public accounts committee said that contacts between officials at the environment, trade and industry and employment departments running schemes for reviving the inner cities were too weak, whereas there were better contacts at local level. After an investigation into the network of economic, environment, employment and housing programmes, the committee accepted the government's lack of a centralised master plan.

The MPs added, however: "In view of the complexity of this subject and the scale of the expenditure, we are not convinced that there is sufficient liaison between departments at national level. We recommend that further consideration be given to strengthening these arrangements, particularly in relation to the introduction of new programmes and other developments affecting the inner cities."

The strategy was set up by Margaret Thatcher after the 1987 general election, with the emphasis on a partnership between central government, the private sector and voluntary bodies. The committee's report points to the dangers of trying to run schemes from Whitehall, rather than having them run by local authorities.

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Unions offer Labour 'new agenda' for the economy

By TIM JONES AND NICHOLAS WOOD

THE next Labour government was offered an escape from wage-related inflationary pressures and pay bargaining disputes by union leaders yesterday in return for a prominent role in the discussion of Britain's economic prospects.

But the prospect of a "new agenda" in which the unions, employers and government would engage in a formal procedure as social partners to dissect the nation's economic prospects before engaging on a "co-ordinated system of national wage bargaining" was immediately questioned by the CBI, which made clear that there should be no return to corporatism.

The Labour leadership also responded cautiously with John Smith, shadow chancellor, expressing doubts about the practicality of the proposals. He was not sure that employers would want to participate.

The CBI said: "If this means a return to the corporatist approach of the Seventies, it is an idea that is dead on its feet. If on the other hand it is about weighing up sensibly all the economic constraints which all those involved in negotiations take into account, it needs to be examined."

Nevertheless, Mr Smith added that he thought the proposals a "good idea" and welcomed evident union support for a "partnership economy".

Labour is committed to "regular discussions between

government, employers, trade unions and others" about the country's economic prospects and the competing claims on national output. However, the package endorsed by the TUC at Blackpool yesterday against the background of warnings by union leaders that they would not countenance a formal pay policy goes much further.

As Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, made clear earlier this week, there will be no special favours for the unions under a future Labour government. If Mr Kinnock believes, however, that he can convincingly present a formal procedure for concluding wage settlements as being in a national, rather than sectional, interest, he may decide to take it further.

The proposal is regarded with deep suspicion by some employers, who believe that it would push Britain further towards acceptance of the European social charter, giving workers far more say in the way in which their companies are run, a proposal that is being resisted fiercely by Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet colleagues.

Under the package, put forward by John Edmonds of the GMB general union, and Alan Tuffin, general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, important wage negotiations would be concentrated in the first three months of the year after a discussion between the three "partners". The procedure would be triggered by publication of the government's annual autumn statement on the economy. The Budget, which would come at the end of the year, would take into account

the outcome of the bargaining round.

Both the union leaders believe that acceptance of the system would lead to pay settlements more consistent with national needs and act as a brake on the going rate being forced upwards by successive settlements raising the minimum acceptable figure.

Mr Edmonds made clear that

he was not advocating an incomes policy or a pay norm but offering a more rational, better informed and more co-ordinated system of determining pay rates.

He said: "Britain's negotiating set-up is a ramshackle mess, soaking up our resources building up and then frustrating the expectations of union members and ensuring that the industrial relations focus never moves off the pay issue".

The new approach, he said, would allow unions and employers to concentrate more on training, job opportunities, improving quality and a national minimum wage, which should be the key items on the union movement's new agenda.

This path would enable Britain to get out of the mess it found itself in. "Bigger and better pay claims will not help. Our old agenda concentrates too much on the annual pay round. The new agenda should concentrate more on improving the long-term prospects of our members. We should talk a bit less about today's wage packet and a lot more about creating tomorrow's opportunities for work."

Mr Tuffin also said that the proposal was not a stalking horse for wage restraint. It was, designed to end a free for all

Letters, page 11



Equal rights: Elizabeth Symons, First Division Civil Servants, addressing delegates

Peace dividend priority for jobs

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LEADERS of three big trade unions have demanded the nation's share of a "peace dividend" running into billions of pounds that they expect to flow from the ending of the cold war.

In a move that is likely to bring them into conflict with some Labour activists, they said yesterday that in the initial stages most of the savings should be ploughed back into protecting jobs and helping defence industries to find new products and markets rather than into higher welfare spending.

Their demands, voiced at a press conference in Blackpool, are almost certain to be endorsed by delegates in a debate to be held by the end of the week.

The TUC is poised to approve a resolution saying that in the long term savings should be used to increase social provision and improve the nation's infrastructure. However, initially, any peace dividend should be directed towards assisting the process of change in the public sector and enabling defence-related industries to diversify.

With more than 40 resolutions demanding a reduction in defence spending on the agenda for the Labour conference later this month, the stage is set for argument over how the money should be spent.

At the press conference, the Transport and General Workers' Union, the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union (MSF), and the Institution of Professionals, Managers and Scientists outlined their combined approach to safeguarding the million-and-a-half jobs estimated to depend on arms companies.

They endorsed Labour's plan for a defence diversification agency to help firms and workers to adapt to changed circumstances and argued that skilled research and development and design teams would be lost for ever without a co-ordinated response by the government, industry and the unions.

They predicted a difficult future for defence companies as arms markets dried up throughout Europe and as the Soviet Union sought to dump unwanted tanks on the British market.

The defence diversification agency had to be properly funded and empowered to make grants to companies to help them to develop new products. The union leaders also called for incentives for companies making changes and for a national retraining programme for defence workers.

Ken Gill, MSF general secretary, said that channelling defence savings into rebuilding industry was a priority. He added: "We think it is quite impossible to talk about improving pensions, services and schools unless there is the kind of manufacturing base that provides that kind of prosperity."

Check on sexist language

THE words used by delegates at next year's TUC congress are to be monitored in an effort to stamp out their "persistent" use of discriminatory language (Peter Mulligan).

The move was unanimously agreed after Ken Gill, chairman of the equal rights committee, gave an assurance that monitoring would not constitute thought control.

Mr Gill told the congress: "Sometimes our language patronises people who happen to be in the minority. It is demeaning to those on the receiving end."

All the speakers in a debate on equal rights supported a motion deplored the "persistent use of language at TUC conferences which is discriminatory, particularly on the grounds of race, gender and disability".

Judy Green, National Association of Probation Officers, said that trade unions were as guilty as anyone in perpetuating "stereotypical models". She said that terms such as "dear" or "the girls" or "the ladies" were demeaning and patronising.

Charles Kelly, Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, told of the "cacophony of wolf whistles" greeting young women who walked past building sites. He said he hoped that the union's view on equal rights would gain wide support in time.

Safety equipment demanded for BR

By KEVIN EASON

BRITISH Rail faces more train crashes unless the government authorises spending on automatic fail-safe equipment, Derrick Fullick, general secretary of the train drivers' union, Aslef, said last night.

Mr Fullick said that Robert Morgan, the driver jailed for manslaughter after the Purley train crash in which five died, was a scapegoat for years of government neglect.

If fail-safe devices of the sort common on continental railways had been fitted, then accidents such as those at Purley, Clapham Junction, Belgrave and Hyde Junction would not have happened.

Mr Fullick told delegates that drivers suffering the stress of long hours and monotonous work would make mistakes and needed the support of fail-safe systems. "The real criminals are in Downing

Street and the Department of Transport". Their failure to provide money for automatic train protection was a blimmin economy.

Roger Freeman, the junior transport minister, looked on from the public gallery as Mr Fullick asked: "Does anyone believe that a train driver with only a quarter-inch plate-glass windscreens in front of his face and hundreds of passengers in his charge deliberately put his and their lives at risk?"

Mr Jimmy Knapp, National Union of Railwaymen general secretary, also condemned the government. The French planned to link the Channel tunnel for high-speed trains, but Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, could not "even get his act together" to build 70 miles of high-speed track from London to Dover, he said.

Personal contracts

By PETER MULLIGAN

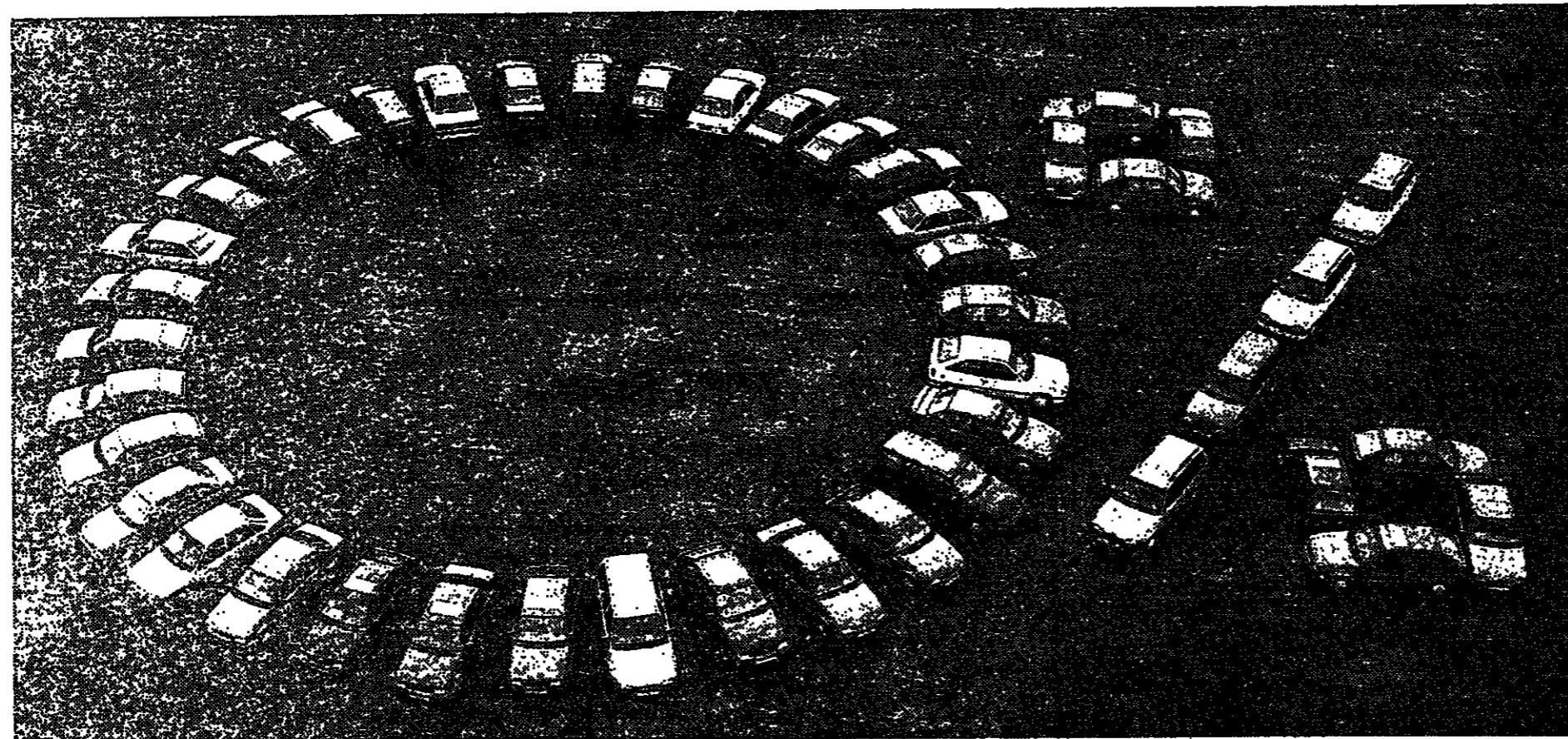
PERSONAL contracts are often introduced by employers to weaken and side step trade unions; the congress was told as it supported a motion calling on the TUC to investigate the issue.

Bob Stevenson, Engineers' and Managers' Association, condemned the new fashion for contracts which, he said, often meant individuals coming under considerable pressure to sign. By introducing personal contracts employers could remove employees from the arena of collective bargaining and diminish their trade union activity.

He added: "We must ensure that this trend is not allowed to spread and we must be determined in our aim for the restoration of collective representation where this has been withdrawn".

Barry Ingham, Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, said that personal contracts put union members who signed in an unenviable position.

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Deposit	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
Minimum deposit	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
Interest charges	£0.00	£71.52	£143.04	£214.56
Monthly repayments	£413.95	£277.68	£233.17	£217.91
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for job

US agrees to talks with Cambodian government

By JAMES PRINGLE IN JAKARTA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE United States is to begin direct talks with the Vietnamese-installed government in Cambodia. James Baker, US Secretary of State, said yesterday. His announcement to the Senate foreign relations committee was made as doubts emerged over whether talks scheduled in Jakarta to pursue United Nations peace initiatives would begin.

Both Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian resistance coalition, and Hun Sen, prime minister of Cambodia, the principal leaders of the rival factions, have declared that they would not attend.

Mr Baker told the Senate committee that Washington would begin talks with Phnom Penh because he had been encouraged by the acceptance by the Hun Sen government and the other Cambodian factions of the UN plan to end the civil war in the country.

He also expressed optimism that the rival factions would achieve progress at their talks in Jakarta despite squabbling over who would attend the gathering.

In Jakarta, frustrated Ali Alatas, the Indonesian foreign minister and host of the meeting, issued fresh appeals to Prince Sihanouk and Mr Hun Sen to attend the meeting, which diplomats here believe may be the country's last chance for peace.

The meeting, on which the hopes of the world community and the long-suffering

Cambodians rest, should have begun yesterday. But Mr Hun Sen has said he will not attend the talks unless Prince Sihanouk is present, while the former monarch, who is in Peking, is apparently holding himself above the fray.

Their attitudes have exacerbated diplomats here representing the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, which last week endorsed a blueprint for peace.

Sihanouk apparently expects to swoop in later from a great height after the minutiae have been dealt with by others, said one Western diplomat here.

Mr Alatas, who earlier this week said that a crucial stage in the "long and arduous negotiating process" had been reached, yesterday consulted with Cambodian leaders. They include Son Sann, the former prime minister and leader of one of the non-communist resistance factions, Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge representative, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, who is representing his father, Prince Sihanouk, and Hor Nam Hong, Phnom Penh's foreign affairs minister.

Diplomats say the talks will have significantly less impact unless the two principal Cambodian figures in the peace process participate in person.

But an Indonesian foreign ministry spokesman said last night there was no conclusion yet to pre-conference consultations, and that these would continue today while the ministry "worked on" getting Mr Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk to attend. Diplomatic sources said Mr Alatas had personally issued fresh appeals to both.

"I pray to God, Mr Hun Sen comes," Mr Son Sann said. "It is our duty as Cambodians to be here to work towards ending the war under which all Cambodians have suffered."

While describing the talks as "essential to Cambodia", Prince Ranariddh said that the coalition would be adequately represented by the leaders of the three factions and that Prince Sihanouk's presence was not essential.

Mr Hor said on arrival here yesterday that Mr Hun Sen would not attend unless Prince Sihanouk did.

The UN peace package foresees a UN role in administering Cambodia and monitoring a ceasefire in the run-up to general elections.

The price of failure that some see looming here could be disastrous. Keat Sukan, a senior official in Mr Son Sann's faction, said: "There are two possibilities in the event of failure. The first is that the Khmer Rouge are likely to intensify their military activity and win taking over Cambodia. This could lead, secondly, to a new intervention by Vietnam, and this time it would swallow Cambodia."



Dinkins: Plea to media not to sensationalise

Army fails to deter Bhutto

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN LAHORE

PAKISTAN'S military-backed caretaker government, a month old today, is intensifying its witch hunt of political allies of Benazir Bhutto, the deposed prime minister, to save its floundering strategy for keeping her out of power.

The tactics of the army and the acting government are taking on an element of farce, so blatant is the attempt to destroy the doggedly determined Miss Bhutto as a political force. The government, widely regarded as inept and discredited, has spent its entire time in power in vain attempts to turn opinion decisively against Miss Bhutto.

Unless she is blocked by rigged elections or banned from standing, there seems every chance that Miss Bhutto's

turn-out wherever she speaks.

There are three main contenders among opposition parties for the post of prime minister: Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the present acting prime minister; Nawaz Sharif, former chief minister of Punjab and head of the powerful Muslim League; and Mohammad Khan Junejo, a former prime minister ousted by the army in 1988.

The military is working to get opposition groups to present the appearance of unity for electoral purposes. The United States, aware of the army's frustration at its failure to discredit Miss Bhutto, has said its aid programme could be jeopardised if the military takes over.

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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

Sheikhdom's identity would be lost without al-Sabahs at helm



Sheikh Jaber: suspended from power in 1986

By PETER MANSFIELD

AS THE dynastic rulers of a tiny but fabulously wealthy state the Sabah family could expect to attract a measure of hostility and dislike. But what is indisputable is that those who denied their right to govern Kuwait effectively rejected its existence as an independent state. The al-Sabahs were and are Kuwait's *raison d'être*. President Saddam Hussein of Iraq knows this, which is why his first demand was for their removal.

The al-Sabahs belonged to the Utub clan of the Anazia tribe from the central Arabian plateau of Nejd, some of whom moved north and east in the 18th century to settle on the coast. In about 1750 the al-Sabahs and their Utub clan founded Kuwait city.

For two centuries the strategic maritime sheikhdom's independence was assured by the lack of any stabilising power in the region. Although Kuwait was nominally part of the Ottoman

Empire, the Kuwaitis persuaded the Turkish administrator in Basra to leave them to look after themselves.

When at the end of the 19th century the Ottoman Sultan made one of his rare moves to assert his authority, Mubarak "the Great" (1896-1915), founder of modern Kuwait, signed the Exclusive Agreement with Britain, accepting British protection in return for excluding all other powers.

The discovery of oil in 1938 and its speedy development after the second world war transformed both Kuwait's situation and the role of the al-Sabahs. The swelling revenues gave them vastly increased economic, and therefore, political power.

The new emir, Abdallah Salem (1950-1965), insisted that the new wealth should be used to create a comprehensive welfare state with equal education for both sexes, but when in 1961, the ending of the Exclusive Agreement with Britain

gave Kuwait full independence, he took steps to turn Kuwait into a constitutional monarchy with an elected parliament.

In parliament, opposition ranged from a small but influential group of pan-Arab nationalists to more conservative Kuwaiti nationalists who pressed the government for Kuwaiti control over its oil industry.

In 1976 Sheikh Jaber Ahmad al-Sabah, who was then prime minister and crown prince, decided the parliamentary system had become unworkable and asked the emir for its suspension. But four years after he succeeded as emir in 1977, he restored parliament only to suspend it again in 1986 when the Gulf war was at its height and Kuwait was threatened.

The ending of the war revived pressure for full restoration of the constitution. Sheikh Jaber half-reconciled by agreeing only last June to partial restoration with election for a provisional parliament, two-thirds elected and one-third appointed. The former deputies insisted that only the restoration of the independence constitution would satisfy them.

The opposition to the Sabah was of two kinds. There were prominent figures both inside and outside parliament who wished to reduce the power of the Sabahs and were highly critical of some of its members. Since the Iraqi invasion we can confidently describe this as the "loyal" opposition. There was also an opposition that was not loyal — mostly among the 30 per cent Shia Muslim minority; but they were not pro-President Saddam; if anything, they favoured his arch-enemy, Ayatollah Khomeini.

The Palestinians formed the largest and longest-established community among the non-Kuwaiti minority. They had no wish to overthrow the government but they did want greater security and a mistake was surely made in not

allowing them a greater say in local government affairs.

The al-Sabahs underestimated the Iraqi threat as much as they overestimated the amount of effective support they could expect from their fellow-Arabs. The Kuwaitis knew they were risking President Saddam's wrath by exceeding their Opec output quota during the past few months. Some members of the cabinet dismissed Iraqi threats as *sabre-rattling*, while others thought some compromise would be necessary.

The system would also have to be changed to make Kuwait more a monarchy of the 20th century than of the eighteenth. On the other hand, a republic in which the al-Sabahs had no place, would hardly survive because the basis of Kuwait's identity would be lost. That is their strongest asset.

Peter Mansfield is a Middle East specialist and author of *Kuwait: Vanguard of the Gulf* and *The Arabs*

Aziz mission to sway Moscow before summit looks doomed

From MARY DEIEVSKY IN MOSCOW

TARIQ Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, arrived unexpectedly in Moscow yesterday in what was seen as a last-minute attempt to sway Soviet leaders before the Helsinki mini-summit on Sunday.

The visit was believed to be an Iraqi initiative. With Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, in Japan, Mr Aziz's only likely purpose was to bring a message from President Saddam Hussein. Moscow has at times cast itself as a potential mediator in the Gulf conflict and has maintained constant contact with Baghdad through diplomatic channels, but Soviet hopes that mediation could succeed seemed to fade with the failure of talks in Jordan last week between Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, and Mr Aziz.

Reporting the visit of Mr Aziz, Tass said: "Until now, no political or diplomatic contacts between Moscow and Baghdad have produced the desired result." An early

indication that Mr Aziz's latest mission is in vain came with the publication of an unprecedented joint statement by the Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers, condemning Iraq's aggression in Kuwait. Moscow yesterday offered no further official indication of its approach to this weekend's Gorbachev-Bush meeting, but Soviet commentators continued to emphasise the closeness of the Soviet and American positions.

Mr Gorbachev received Robert Dole, the senator who is leading a US congressional delegation to Moscow, and Tass gave prominence to a statement by James Baker, the US Secretary of State, to the effect that America was gratified by the Soviet response to the confrontation. There were also hints that Moscow could be looking for economic incentives to maintain its stance on Iraq. Soviet officials have stressed the losses the country will suffer from halting trade with Iraq. Soon after Moscow issued its initial condemnation of Iraq, the US announced it was lifting quotas on Soviet trade representatives in America, and it was yesterday reported that Washington is preparing a package for the Soviet Union that could be worth several million dollars in farm credits.

Stanislav Kondrashov, a respected newspaper commentator, said that economic factors could be the main reason why Moscow is reluctant to withdraw its estimated 6,500 economic and military specialists from Iraq, which owes the Soviet Union \$6 billion (£3.1 billion). Baghdad might use the pretext of broken contracts to refuse to pay this back, he said.

• TOKYO: Japan, which has been slow to respond to events in the Gulf, said yesterday it was considering whether to send unarmed troops to the region, and later issued a rare joint statement with the Soviet Union condemning Iraq's invasion (Joe Joseph writes).

In a joint communiqué, the first in more than 50 years on a non-bilateral issue, Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister who is visiting Tokyo, and Taro Nakayama, his Japanese counterpart, said: "The two countries share the recognition that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and its annexation by Iraq contradict basic principles of international law and the United Nations Charter." The statement added that collective efforts to solve such regional strife, would help in the search for a new international order in the post-Cold War era. The communiqué stopped short of outlining specific joint action.

Earlier, Misao Sakamoto, chief cabinet secretary, said that the government was "considering whether and to what extent the self-defence forces should play a role in achieving peace in the Gulf". Responding to Washington's request for help, Japan yesterday loaded a carrier in Nagoya with 800 four-wheel-drive cars and lorries and air conditioners, due for Saudi Arabia.

Leading article, page 11

SAUDI ARABIA
Fahd lifts curbs on women in workforceFrom YOUSSEF IBRAHIM
IN JEDDAH

IN A sweeping directive apparently intended to mobilize Saudi society for possible war with Iraq, King Fahd has ordered the expansion of the armed forces and has called for wider participation of women in the labour force.

In a directive received by the Council of Ministers, the king opened the way to all male university graduates to enrol in military training programmes immediately in all branches of the Saudi armed forces.

Until now, members of Saudi Arabia's 65,000-man volunteer armed forces have been carefully selected so as to strike a geographical and tribal balance among various segments of the Saudi population.

The new move falls short of establishing a call-up, which a number of officials here have already called for. But by abandoning the practice of tribal quotas, the royal edict expands vastly the size of the manpower pool from which the armed forces are drawn.

In his edict on women in the workplace, the official Saudi press agency said that the king ordered "all specialized government authorities to accept those women volunteers who present themselves to carry on duties in the areas of human services and medical services within the context of fully preserving Islamic and social values."

In traditional Islamic societies, public contact between the sexes is virtually non-existent. Women are free to take jobs serving other women, for example as gynaecologists or as teachers in girls' schools in the gender-separated educational system.

But because Islamic tradition strongly promotes the notion that a woman's place is in the home, the vast majority of Saudi women have not made their presence felt in the labour market. Many of the jobs now available to women in Saudi Arabia are filled by foreigners. The immediate impact will be to encourage Saudi women to take these jobs. But over time it could lead to the employment of Saudi women in jobs that would put them in public contact with men, such as nursing in men's wards in hospitals or working as clerks in banks.

The directive would free more men for military service, but its principal aim appears to be to reduce the country's dependence on foreign workers. (NYT)



Calming influence: a Jordanian soldier using his belt to disperse Asian refugees feeding over food and water near Ruweishid camp.

JORDAN

Violence stalks refugees' aid scramble

From JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN RUWEISHID

AFTER tent number 149 at the Ruweishid Bridge camp fell into Filippino hands following a brawl with a group of Pakistanis, Rolando Campos, a stocky car mechanic, made a victorious gesture of sharpening a tent stake with a stone.

It took just a few minutes for one of the other group to produce a short-bladed knife, made from an empty sardine can. Three Jordanian soldiers then appeared, waving leather belts and sent people into their tents to avert a confrontation. Later, inside the tent he shares with 13 other men and women, Mr Campos buried the stake. "I know they will try to get us out," he said. "But I am prepared for those wolves."

On Tuesday, three Sri Lankans were injured when a group of Thai teenagers assaulted them as they carried water to their tents, doctors at the camp said. Religious intolerance is also fuelling tension. Filipinos have been harassed by Muslims at the bigger Shalaan One camp, 21 miles east of Ruweishid, because of the sleeveless blouses they wear. "We are so afraid that we do not go out any more," said Anita Castelo, aged 34, a bank clerk from Manila. Her husband says he too has sharpened a tent stake.

• AMMAN: Werner Kaspar, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross delegation in Jordan, yesterday expressed strong concern about conditions in the two border camps. (Andrew McEwan writes.)

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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: THE MIDDLE EAST

Baker sketches plan for Gulf policing force after victory

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, has floated the idea of a new Middle East regional security structure to contain Iraq once it is ousted from Kuwait. He suggested the international co-operation engendered by the invasion could become a "springboard" for ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and establishing a new order in the region.

In appearances before the House and Senate foreign affairs committees over the past two days, Mr Baker gave only an outline of his thinking but suggested such a security structure would involve "major Arab participation" backed by a long-term US military presence, probably naval. It would seek a "new balance of power in the Middle East. This would require a continued international arms embargo against Iraq, and the strengthening of the military forces of moderate Arab nations.

Referring to Iraq's chemical, biological and incipient nuclear warfare capabilities, Mr Baker said it should be possible to "create a security structure" that would make it so clearly to the detriment of any subsequent leader or even the present leader to use or even contemplate using any of those weapons that there would be very little risk that they would be used".

"Mr Baker envisaged using the international response to

the Iraqi invasion as a "springboard" not only for curbing the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons in the region, but also for fresh efforts to resolve the conflicts which lie at the root of such proliferation, including the festering conflict between Israel and its Palestinian and Arab neighbours". It was not just enough to demonstrate that aggression did not pay. "We must show that a pathway to reconciliation and peace does exist and that it can be found with good will and good faith on all sides," he said.

Moderate Arab states will certainly expect Washington to put pressure on Israel in return for their opposition to Iran. Mr Baker wants to continue his frustrated efforts to promote Israeli-Palestinian talks. Though the PLO has damaged the chances of such a dialogue by supporting Iraq, Mr Baker said he believed a "reassessment" of that position was under way.

Mr Baker's congressional appearances, the first by any administration official since the confrontation began, did much to dispel the fog that has obscured the administration's longer-term aims and strategy.

He played down the prospect of war. He talked up the potential of diplomacy. He said US objectives included the removal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate government of the legitimate government of Kuwaiti.

Michael Howard, page 10
Leading article, page 11



Safe and sound: Mrs Ann Ibrahim carrying her two-week old baby daughter, Yasmin, after arriving at Gatwick airport on the Virgin flight from Amman yesterday. Yasmin was born while her mother was held captive in the Gulf

ISRAEL

West Bank problem will still demand attention

From RICHARD OWEN
IN JERUSALEM

Levy: demand for arms to keep "qualitative edge"

ISRAEL'S confident assertion that the Gulf events have pushed the Palestinian issue to one side was called into question yesterday as Israeli newspapers gave a warning that the Helsinki summit could lead to an understanding between Washington and Moscow on the need to resolve all Middle-East conflicts, including Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

David Levy, Israel's foreign minister, yesterday met James Baker, the US Secretary of State, in Washington to press for increased American military aid and to argue that the Palestine Liberation Organisation's support for President Saddam Hussein has ruled it out as a negotiating partner. But the newspaper *Maariv* reported that President Gorbachev will propose to President Bush that an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait should be accompanied by an Israeli withdrawal from the territories.

Officially, Washington has

rejected "linkage" between the Gulf conflict and the West Bank. President Saddam has offered parallel talks on Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, Israel's occupation of Palestinian land and the Syrian presence in Lebanon. The Iraqi leader argued that the United Nations had been quick to move against Iraq yet had still not evicted Israel from the West Bank after 23 years.

The United States, like Israel, rejects any such anal-

ogy. US officials agree that Israel's control of the territories was not the result of an act of aggression but of the 1967 war in which Israel was attacked. Washington also shares the Israeli view that the support given by Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, to President Saddam has damaged the PLO's image, undoing a two-year diplomatic campaign by Mr Arafat to present himself as a moderate.

Qatar is expelling Palestinians and Abu Dhabi has refused to let Arafat's plane land to refuel," one Israeli official said. "You can hardly expect Israel to be kinder to Arafat than the Gulf Arabs."

But beneath the jubilation of Israel's government, is an undertone of anxiety. The newspaper *Haaretz* yesterday took to task Boutros Ghali, minister of state at the Egyptian foreign ministry, for saying that "the real crisis affecting the region is rooted in the Palestinian problem". He said that Israel's refusal to further the peace process had "created a background of instability even before the Gulf crisis erupted". Israeli officials are worried that Mr Baker also takes this view.

Despite disavowals, Washington might be tempted to agree with Moscow and the moderate Arab states, led by Egypt, that all Middle East issues should be tackled in a bid to stabilise a volatile region once and for all.

Diplomats said that discussion of a Palestinian delegation to peace talks with Israel was "on ice" after the collapse of the Likud-Labour coalition in March over US proposals for Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo. But Israel is aware that Mr Baker does not regard the Palestinian issue as marginal. This week he told Congress that the Kuwaiti issue could be "a springboard for revived efforts to resolve the conflicts which lie at the root of regional instability".

These included, he said, "the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, and the festering conflict between Israel and its Palestinian and Arab neighbours".

This has points in common with the Soviet proposal for a comprehensive international peace conference, reiterated by Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, on Tuesday. Mr Shavaradze's remarks, believing they referred to a conference on the Gulf only, but later categorically rejected the initiative.

On the Gulf conflict itself,

Saudi Arabia hopes to gain from the addition of as many as 40,000 new part-time soldiers to its force of 65,000 men remains unclear. At one training centre in the eastern province, new recruits did not fill their training officers with great confidence. Some young men, obviously unfit and unused to any exertion, found themselves trapped in a barbed-wire obstacle course, while others opted to run round a hand-to-hand combat dummy rather than plunge their bayonets in.

Expatriates working here tend to greet the Saudi appetite for banal with some cynicism, pointing out that the country has never been at war and has tended in the past to pay off its potential enemies rather than fight.

Young men are queuing up every morning at the Khaled national guard barracks near here to volunteer to defend the country which only came into being after the first world war.

The road outside the military compound is choked with expensive American limousines, and although the young men signing up certainly do not need the money or the prospect of uncomfortable basic train-

ing, the spirit of war has infected the nation and every young man now wants to be seen in uniform.

If anything, the Saudis, urged on by constant televised coverage of their forces in the field, have displayed an even more pugnacious attitude than the notoriously "gung-ho" US ground forces.

"When are we going in to destroy the Iraqis?" one Saudi asked recently, mistaking me for a foreign soldier and bemoaning the use of diplomacy to solve the Gulf conflict.

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BRITAIN

Second hostage group to set out in convoy today

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
AND MARK SOISTER

A MESSAGE announcing another large-scale road convoy from Kuwait to Baghdad for women and children was broadcast on the BBC World Service last night. The convoy was due to leave from the Hyatt Regency hotel in Kuwait city at 0500 BST today.

The successful arrival in Baghdad of a first convoy of seven coaches and two cars carrying 300 women and children, which set out from Kuwait on Tuesday, is expected to reassure those still in Kuwait about joining the new convoy. Sources in Whitehall expect between 200 and 300 people will join it.

The Foreign Office disclosed yesterday that 30 British women and children who tried to join Tuesday's convoy were seized by the Iraqis. Details were not known yesterday but sources in Whitehall believed that they were probably taken at road checkpoints by low-level military units which had not received word from their superiors to allow those attempting to depart to reach the convoy's designated assembly point.

The women and children seized were initially being held at the Mendi Hotel in Kuwait, which has been used by the Iraqi authorities for the past month as a detention centre for Western foreigners. A Foreign Office spokesman said there was no suggestion they were maltreated.

Tuesday's convoy was met by British embassy officials as it arrived in Baghdad. The passengers disembarked at the Mansour Melia hotel where British diplomats were ini-

tially denied access to them. But after the diplomats returned to the embassy the convoy arrived at the embassy gates where diplomats were able to check that the passengers were all right.

Yesterday embassy officials were doing their best to facilitate the issuing by the Iraqi authorities of exit visas for the Britons. The women who had arrived in the convoy described the intense discomfort of the 500-mile journey. This included some of the children suffering from travel sickness and the fear of being detained at roadblocks.

An early group of 24 British women and children to arrive in Baghdad from Kuwait were yesterday granted exit visas and put on board an Iraqi Airways aircraft chartered by France which flew to Amman. It was hoped to connect with an Air France charter from Amman to Paris.

Meanwhile, another plane load of British women and children returned from the Gulf yesterday having escaped from Iraq to Jordan. Among the 105 hostages who arrived at Gatwick from Amman, were 57 Britons, 29 Americans, four Australians and two Canadians. They returned on a Virgin Atlantic Boeing 747 which had brought in 30 tons of food and medical supplies.

Richard Branson, the head of Virgin, criticised the French ambassador in Jordan, who he said had refused to agree to a deal for Virgin to take French hostages from Baghdad to Paris.

Letters, page 11

SAUDI ARABIA Fighting men put faith in Koran

From NICHOLAS BEESTON IN DHARAHAN

LIEUTENANT Sami Salih believes the best protection for Saudi Arabia against the threat of an Iraqi attack is in the top left pocket of his combat jacket.

"This is what will defeat Saddam," he said, producing a small Koran, copies of which he is distributing to Saudi Arabia's frontline troops. "We do not need US help, we only need faith in Allah," said the young cleric, who acts as a Muslim version of an army chaplain.

Just as the Mujahedin of Afghanistan sent the Soviet soldiers home, so we will defeat the Iraqis."

The casual dismissal of Western military aid would probably not find great support among his countrymen, who have by and large welcomed the arrival of American forces to defend their country and the two holiest shrines in Islam at Mecca and Medina.

But the enthusiasm he displays for going to war would certainly strike a chord with thousands of young Saudis who have responded to King Fahd's call-up appeal.

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Tomorrow never comes. Perhaps that's why other magazines and newspapers don't concern themselves with the future.

New Scientist, though, takes a different view. By covering every area of current scientific develop-

ment, we can help you to understand the changes and challenges that lie ahead. This not only makes interesting reading but also affects

the plans and decisions you make today. For instance, if we tell you that New Scientist comes out on Thursdays, you can already start to plan for the future. By ordering a copy in advance. Get on top of tomorrow.

newScientist

John O'Leary

MacGregor on a limb

Of all the main elements of the school system, the only one that has been impervious to the tide of Conservative education reform is the A level. Yesterday's proposed revision by the government's examination advisers, thorough though it was, will sanction few fundamental changes. It was never intended to.

The prime minister has declared the A level to be the gold standard of the education system, and soon overruled the education department in sealing the fate of the last real reform package, in 1988. Michael Fallon, her new schools minister, quelled any doubts about the current exercise with a promise not to weaken, modify or otherwise "muck about" with the exam. The School Examinations and Assessment Council (SEAC) could make what recommendations it liked so long as they added up to more of the same.

Immediate pressure for change evaporated last month when the first set of A level students to have taken the GCSE confounded the sceptics with results that showed an improvement on 1989. But their successes have only confirmed another group of critics in the view that standards are falling.

Under the circumstances, the secondary head teachers view that SEAC made a brave attempt at the impossible with its package of mild reform may not be far wide of the mark. Encouraging mid-course assessment and allowing schools to award a proportion of the final mark for course-work may be seen by traditionalists as the thin end of the wedge, but it amounts to little more than a recognition of a wedge already in place. A level syllabuses that emphasise course-work have drawn applications in such numbers that their spread is inevitable.

John MacGregor, the education secretary, may nod in the direction of the standards lobby by reducing the maximum coursework assessment allowed in schools, but there is no prospect of a return to universal reliance on a single examination. This year's results may have been good, but most educationists still believe more continuity is needed between GCSE and A level. Mr MacGregor will be content to allow the examining boards freedom to bring the two closer together, as long as standards do not appear to suffer.

This, of course, is where the battle will be in the months ahead. There have frequently been allegations, some by leading head teachers, that A levels are becoming easier, but all are anecdotal. Academic rigour means different things to different people, and the boards insist that the changing nature of some subjects – especially in science, where knowledge is increasing so fast – is as much responsible for the swing away from the old emphasis on the absorbing of facts as any

knock-on effect of the GCSE.

Mr MacGregor himself is demanding some reform, and insisting that core skills, including communication, problem-solving and personal capability, be measured at A level. Modern language competence and familiarity with information technology are also among the government's requirements. Ministers hope to achieve these aims partly by broadening the curriculum through the use of AS levels, encouraging sixth forms to take varied subjects at different levels.

So far, however, there is little sign of schools adopting such an approach, despite an increase in the number of AS level entries this year. The universities, which are usually blamed for stifling exam reform, have supported the change this time, as well as backing the 1988 plans for five "leaner but tougher" A levels to replace the conventional three. They are conscious of the need for more qualified applicants to enable them to fulfil their own expansion plans at a time of demographic decline among 18-year-olds.

The demand now in the educational establishment is for a thorough re-examination of the post-GCSE scene. Richard Pring, professor of education at Oxford University, is the latest to put the case. At a conference yesterday he decried the "fumbling" approach to reform. "It is quite obvious to me if not to anyone else," he said, "that post-16 reforms should have begun with a look at post-16 provision as a whole, and not with the reform of A levels." whatever claims are made about integration with vocational courses.

The SEAC proposals to link some vocational courses with appropriate A levels will satisfy him as little as it will satisfy traditionalists such as Nick Seaton, chairman of the Campaign for Real Education, who fears that the reforms will make A levels "as meaningless as GCSE".

Mr MacGregor is caught between irreconcilable demands, with some of the more obvious options (such as development of a British baccalaureate) already ruled out.

He is committed to a review of A levels and AS levels that will preserve standards while establishing a link with GCSE and continuing towards the Tories' target of doubling the proportion of young people going on to higher education. The standard at which A level is pitched is of crucial importance to his other objectives. Yet while theoretically he retains control through SEAC, the drift towards more course-work already sanctioned by the examining boards shows how the system can evolve without his direct intervention.

That has been the cross education secretaries have had to bear, and it will be no different with A levels, regardless of reviews.

...and moreover

CLEMENT FREUD

To shuck or not to shuck, that was the question. There being an "r" in the month, we shucked. Michael Fish the weather man. Peter Manzi, who does it more quickly than anyone, and I. You put the oyster into your left hand, grip the short sharp dagger with which you prise apart the shell in your right, find the place where the upper and lower halves are most separable, jam in and turn the blade, and hope that what opens will be the mollusc rather than the length of your thumb.

Natives are back; do not go to Colchester without a lemon wedge. (For the record, grouse are back also; on the 12th and subsequent days of any month containing a "g" they make their reappearance. You pluck grouse while you shuck oysters. Five letter words ending in -uck are socially acceptable.)

The most envied man in the kitchen in which I served my apprenticeship was William the Oysterer – receiver of four months a year paid summer holiday. Annually on April 30 he would wrap his knives in his leather apron, secure the parcel in oiled silk and do his farewell lap of honour around the stoves, extending his horny, finger-depleted right hand to his friends in the fish, sauce, soup and roast departments. "One two three" he said; it was his only joke – shorthand for "see you on September 1", for man's inhumanity to oyster takes a 12-day breather in the summer months.

There is rhythm in the way Mr Manzi opens natives: he is like a smooth one-man production line. Mr Fish is new to the game and tries to use both hands and his teeth to get the shell open. I manage, though am steadily surprised when it works and particularly inexpert when it comes to cutting the beast from its mooring and flipping it onto its best side.

In the professional kitchen, the oyster's job is some way down the social totem pole: above the genuinely low-life kitchen porters, plungers and silver-room men, but still megamemes beneath the white-clad elite who wear starched hats of a height, becoming to their station. The Jennifer who deerves where different classes of staff

shall eat placed him with us apprentices, and daily during the months of his operation he would bring to our feast oysters that were too small, too milky or too damaged to sell to customers; these, with overcooked steak from roast, a double-ordered sole bonne femme from fish, a garbure-of-the-day that insufficient punters had ordered from soup, formed our meal. I was keen on oysters. Had told they were an aphrodisiac; knew a Welsh boy who said "if you don't swallow them quickly, you get a stiff neck". Believed him.

At Green's and at Wheeler's – where I sampled the new season's crop – Aphrodite was not mentioned, which is sensible. The theory that certain foods turn you on is a fraud: I have seen men remain unmoved after a meal of bivalves, ginseng and mint-tea, yet on other occasions become seriously excited on sago pudding. What matters is the identity of the person who shares your repast.

By the time Mr Manzi had opened two dozen of the brutes, I had managed six: Mr Fish was trailing. Onlookers clapped politely. Below us, where William at the Dorchester in days of yore had a wooden barrel to collect the juice and splinters that issued from his handwork, he had a stainless steel sink. A pity. For the month that I worked on soup, the barrel was one of my daily ports of call: Billy (spelt in many other ways) was my chef's speciality. It is a bisque made by incorporating oyster juices and particles, dry white wine and double cream: reducing this by boiling, thickening it with a little *beurre manié* – a rounded teaspoon of flour rubbed into a rounded dessert spoon of butter – seasoning with cayenne pepper and straining into a soup tureen.

Odd thing, but the above recipe does more for me than the music still singing in her head rose to a crescendo as her parted lips yielded to his. Her fingers clung for support to the material of his shirt, her pliant body moving in whatever way his whim demanded.

For some of us, Mills & Boon trail way behind Epicurus and Escovier.

Digging in for the duration

Michael Howard believes victory in the Gulf will go to the side best able to play a waiting game – and that the US and allies must refrain from force because time is with them

So far, so good. In his opening moves in the Gulf, President Bush has hardly put a foot wrong. He rapidly retrieved the initial *faux pas* of invoking Article 51 of the UN Charter to justify unilateral American action, and went on to secure virtually unanimous UN approval for an effective blockade. He has built up a majority against Saddam Hussein within the Arab world, and won the guarded approval of both the Soviet Union and China. For the moment no further decisions are called for. It will take some weeks to complete the military build-up, and it will be some months before the blockade becomes effective. The president can congratulate himself that so far he has not, as he put it, made the wrong mistakes.

But the difficult part is now beginning. Optimists hope for one of two outcomes. One is a blockade so effective that Saddam has to withdraw from Kuwait – or, better still, is overthrown by elements in his own government. The other is a small war in which American technology destroys the Iraqi war machine in a matter of days, with minimal casualties to Americans. Incidentally, "zapping" Saddam in his Baghdad bunker. But it is remarkable, and salutary, how few such optimists now seem to be around.

The pessimists pose more sombre alternatives. One is a blockade that Saddam can survive by rationing and blockade-running via overland and air deliveries, but which would inflict hardships on his "foreign guests" and receive full media coverage. As month succeeds month, world interest in maintaining the blockade might slacken. UN solidarity might erode as other issues grab the headlines, and the question of Kuwaiti independence might become an archaic legalism like that of Tibet. A new turn of events in the Middle East might make Washington as a desirable ally. Odder things have happened. Given sufficient patience, Saddam

could possibly get away with it.

The pessimists' other fear is a war in which the Americans find themselves on their own, suffering (by their standards) heavy casualties, domestically divided and strained economically. Saddam could play the cards of chemical warfare, exposure of hostages and escalation into an Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a war would be a disaster even if the Americans won, for it would leave a legacy of hatred throughout the Middle East and would destabilise the economy of the industrial world. To start a war without appreciating that it might turn out this way would be lunacy.

Many hope that Saddam will take the burden of choice off Mr Bush's shoulders by an act so provocative that the entire UN will feel bound collectively to respond. Unfortunately, so shrewd an operator is unlikely to do us any such favour. Nor does Mr Bush have the option exercised by President Johnson in 1964 at the time of the Gulf of Tonkin incident: seizing on or provoking a minor clash as an excuse for a major escalation.

American opinion is now too

sophisticated and its allies are too

sceptical to buy that one again.

If he is to keep public opinion

behind him and the United Nations united, Mr Bush must continue to play – or be seen to play – strictly by the book.

But playing by the book involves a further dilemma. The book – that is, the UN resolutions – calls for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of the "legitimate" regime. It says nothing about the overthrow of Saddam, and unless Saddam behaves far more provocatively than hitherto, any such action is unlikely to command majority support in the Security Council. A purely Western attempt to oust him would be seen as blatant colonialism, akin to the British attempt to topple Nasser in 1956.

Yet even if he withdraws from Kuwait, Saddam will remain a danger. His open ambition, his

military strength and his lack of scruple in using it all make him a permanent threat to the stability of the region. Would a return to the *status quo ante bellum* really provide a satisfactory resolution to the crisis? Or was the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, like the German attack on Belgium in 1914 or on Poland in 1939, symptomatic of a deeper problem requiring more drastic surgery?

These are the questions. Mr Bush has been wrestling with, and he seems to have come up with the right answers. The first is to continue to keep in line with his allies. Quite properly he is demanding greater contributions from them, but the more contributions they make, the greater becomes their right to be consulted. The Soviet Union may not be quite an ally but its advice

and consent are of major importance. The more the United States is seen as the agent of the international community, and not simply of the rich industrial nations of the West, the easier will be the isolation of Saddam Hussein and the more effective the pressures brought to bear on him.

Militarily, unless Saddam provokes hostilities, Mr Bush seems to have decided simply to sweat it out. It is suggested that the American people do not have the patience for a prolonged confrontation, but the suggestion usually comes from journalists (not only American) who cannot bear the prospect of months going by with no striking headlines. In fact the American people will probably be no different from anyone else in their reactions. For them, waiting will not involve any real hardship.

and they are unlikely to seek relief in a pre-emptive war. They are no longer the gun-ho romantics of the Kennedy generation, prepared to endure any sacrifice in the cause of freedom.

They learned from Vietnam that wars go on for an unpredictable length of time and involve an unpredictable number of people – and not always the right people – being killed. This time, moreover, many American civilians will be at risk. Under these circumstances they are likely to be patient for as long as it takes.

Mr Bush will thus get as much domestic support for a policy of caution as he will from his allies. That is not to say that war may not come through some unpredictable turn of events. If it does, it is unlikely to stop short of the total defeat of Saddam. Even if they were to limit their military objectives to the liberation of Kuwait, the Americans would need first to strike, and keep striking, at the source of Iraqi air power, and that must involve substantial collateral damage. Saddam might eventually be destroyed but, as with Hitler, a great deal else would have been destroyed as well. And then what?

On balance the dangers of initiating the war – initiating rather than accepting it if forced upon us – are thus much greater than those of remaining at peace. Since Saddam is likely to see things the same way, we may have to expect a prolonged confrontation and ensure that his nerve is the first to crack. But that does not mean negotiation. As Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, has discovered, there is nothing to negotiate about. Either Iraq conforms to the UN resolutions or it does not. Once it does, negotiations can take place about its future relations with Kuwait.

Nor does it mean an "Arab solution". There has already been an Arab solution. The Arab League, by a majority vote, has condemned Iraq, endorsed the UN resolutions and accepted the presence of foreign troops to enforce them. It means waiting patiently until Saddam either capitulates or initiates military action. Ultimately time is on our side and he knows it.

As for Saddam's own future, that is best left to his own people and to his neighbours. They do not have a tradition of being kind to failures.

Sir Michael Howard is Robert E. Lerner Professor of Modern History at Yale University.

Marc Weller explains how the Kuwaiti delegation to the UN shot its country in the foot

The legal right to fight surrendered

Under Article 51 of the UN Charter, which is bound to be cited by all sides in the Commons debate on the Gulf today, self-defence can be invoked to respond to an armed attack only "until the Security Council has taken the measures necessary to maintain international peace and security". According to Washington's controversial interpretation, it is not up to the Security Council to determine whether it has taken the "measures necessary": individual states remain free to decide. And although the exiled emir has so far asked only for military help in enforcing the blockade, Britain has announced that technically, "we would have legal authority" to take further measures "under Article 51, and also by the request of the ruler of Kuwait that we do everything possible to recover his territory".

This argument has never really been tested, since up to now the cold war and the stifling veto of the permanent members of the Security Council has precluded enforcement measures. For example, when the Falklands were invaded, the UN was unable to agree collective measures, and the superpowers – no wonder that things had to be taken out."

Despite these reassuring amendments, it took the UN almost a week to adopt Resolution 665, and in the end the mandate to use force in pursuit of the blockade had to be shrouded in vague terms to induce China to sign.

The chief UN delegate, Thomas Pickering, claimed that the reserved right of self-defence contained in Resolution 661 had survived the adoption of the new text, although such a reference had been specifically rejected in the negotiations. Only Britain made a similar statement, but hinted at the desirability of further UN authorisation if more forceful measures became necessary.

The risk of losing this wide international support prompted Washington and London to go back to the UN to ask for a mandate to cover the naval blockade, which had aroused disagreement in the Security Council. But a reference in another US draft resolution on the blockade which could have been interpreted as hinting at the right to self-defence, had to be deleted. A Kuwaiti delegate to the UN consoled himself by saying that "the language of Resolution 665 was the product of compromise between

Bernard Levin appears tomorrow.

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The risk of losing this wide international support prompted Washington and London to go back to the UN to ask for a mandate to cover the naval blockade, which had aroused disagreement in the Security Council. But a reference in another US draft resolution on the blockade which could have been interpreted as hinting at the right to self-defence, had to be deleted. A Kuwaiti delegate to the UN consoled himself by saying that "the language of Resolution 665 was the product of compromise between

in UN measures. He committed his country to "the path of peace to attain and secure its rights". A fellow Kuwaiti delegate added that "no party intends to undertake unilateral actions. If the current initiatives under the mandate of Resolution 665 fail, then it would be appropriate and necessary to go back to the Council and seek authorisation for further measures."

In effect, Kuwait itself has acknowledged that the Security Council has taken the "measures necessary" of Article 51 for the maintenance of peace and security. Since it has therefore apparently abandoned self-defence in favour of UN action, no other state can rely on the subsidiary right of collective self-defence on its behalf.

In what may have been an embarrassing oversight, Kuwait's mentors in Washington failed to persuade their client to leave open the possibility of military operations at a later stage – a mistake difficult, if not impossible, to reverse, although the emir's government-in-exile has now started talking about the need for a military offensive.

Of course, the loss of the right to evict Saddam Hussein from Kuwait unilaterally does not mean that the world remains defenceless and at his mercy. Further action by the Security Council is likely if the economic embargo does not defeat him. Kuwaiti freedom-fighters struggling for national liberation may receive outside assistance, but so far Saddam has taken care not to provoke a direct strike by the powers who face him in the Gulf. The Iraqis have actively avoided naval and aerial incidents, and a small skirmish would not in itself permit massive retaliation.

Saddam has also withdrawn his elite tank and missile forces further behind the Iraqi lines to destroy the legal argument that an "anticipatory act of self-defence" is necessary to forestall an imminent and overwhelming attack. But were Baghdad systematically to threaten the lives of foreigners, their home states' right of self-defence might be activated. It is impossible to say what response such an outrage would trigger.

The author is a researcher in international law at Queens' College, Cambridge.

lifted from his last public offering. Kinnock's office was unrepentant about the self-plagiarism yesterday, insisting that he will be "repeating the theme of 11 wasted years over and over again until the next election". (And why not as with a slightly different number it was also the theme that won Harold Wilson his first election in 1964?)

But Kinnock did change one thing. In June he told the miners that Britain's inflation rate was 40 per cent above the average of our

cases on two floors of a custom-built area. Staff would not have had time to rescue the masterpieces in advance of the Iraqi invasion, hence the growing fears that rampaging soldiers might already have smashed the cases and stolen the most tempting objects.

North has contacted a friend in the potential war zone seeking up-to-date information and is discussing a co-ordinated approach to Saddam with the British Museum. "Our message for Saddam is that he honour the Islamic tradition and preserve these magnificent examples of his own culture."

First Impressionists
As Christie's revel in the commission to handle the unrivalled collection of Islamic art assembled by Kuwait's royal family amid reports of wholesale looting by Iraqi troops. Accumulated at a cost of millions by Sheikh Nasser Al Sabah, the collection contains oriental and Middle Eastern gold and silver work – including important Mogul jewellery from India – carpets, pottery, glass and weaponry.

Venetia Porter of the British Museum's oriental department, who worked on the collection in Kuwait two years ago, says many masterpieces would be instantly recognisable on the black market. But Anthony North, senior research assistant at the V&A's department of metal working, who is co-ordinating the campaign to save the collection, points out that gold and silver can be melted down and that to pile precious glass and ceramics in the back of a



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UNITING THE NATION

Emergency sessions of parliament are, and should be, rare. Today's debate should have two functions. The first is to rally Britain's elected representatives in the face of a grave threat and to provide President Saddam Hussein with unequivocal evidence of the country's determination to do whatever is necessary to force Iraq to surrender its human and territorial prey. The second is to ensure that the government's responses and aims are thoroughly cross-examined and understood.

The main purposes, as some parliamentary debates during the phoney war phase of the Falklands conflict demonstrated, are not always easily reconciled. The likelihood that British forces will eventually be engaged in war in the Gulf means that this debate cannot be confined to the government's actions so far. The military as well as diplomatic implications of those actions are under scrutiny. The question is how far a responsible government should be forced to spell out the means as well as the ends of policy, and how far a responsible Opposition should press it.

Ends first. British forces have been dispatched for two declared purposes. They are there under article 51 of the UN charter, at the request of Saudi Arabia, to deter Iraq from carrying its war beyond Kuwait's frontiers. They are there, initially at the request of Kuwait under article 51, to enforce UN sanctions against Iraq, through naval enforcement subsequently authorised (after some delay) by the UN Security Council.

Deterrence is working. Sanctions are functioning efficiently, but until Iraq withdraws unconditionally from Kuwait they cannot be said to have "worked". Nor is it altogether clear whether the purpose of the sanctions is to ensure that no invasion recurs, by permanently weakening Iraq. Are British forces in the Gulf to recapture Kuwait by force or even to overthrow Saddam? Were Iraq to withdraw, its military and chemical weapons arsenal intact, would the government consider that Iraq's threat to peace had been removed?

These questions cannot be considered purely hypothetical, as Mrs Thatcher has already acknowledged by referring to the need, once Kuwait has been freed, to examine regional security arrangements. They raise, however, the possibility of an open-ended commitment on which the Opposition will properly seek clarification. No government could expect a blank cheque, and the debate should seek to establish broad agreement on objectives.

The Opposition should, in turn, relinquish the temptation to tie the government's hand on the means to employ. The spirit of adven-

turism reigns on neither side of the house and Mrs Thatcher has been insistent that sanctions must be given every chance, refusing to set any kind of deadline. That does not mean that a deadline will not impose itself if Iraq continues to refuse to withdraw, if only because the multinational forces assembling in the Gulf cannot sit there indefinitely.

The main point of contention is the government's liberty to act without the express authorisation of the security council. Mrs Thatcher contends that the collective self-defence clause of the UN charter, article 51, provides all the legal authorisation necessary for military action. The Opposition concedes that in certain circumstances — if Iraq attacked another country, or the fleet enforcing the embargo, for example — a quick military response would be justified, without first obtaining a security council resolution. But would bipartisanship break down if Iraq sits tight, if the government judges that the security council would not agree to military action under article 42, and commits forces to a counter-thrust under article 51?

There is nothing ignoble in emphasising the desirability of collective action under UN auspices. The activism of the security council has been historically remarkable, a gain not to be lightly undermined. But the UN's history has been less than glorious, action under article 42 would be unprecedented, and UN diplomacy is not yet mature enough to be counted on. London and Washington must therefore keep their options open.

Kuwait has acknowledged, as argued by Marc Weller opposite, that the security council has taken the action needed to enforce the naval blockade, and should be consulted if further tightening of sanctions is needed. But should Kuwait request it, that does not rule out military action under article 51 in pursuit of resolution 660, demanding Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.

Neil Kinnock's test for action under article 51 appears to be not legality in the narrow sense, but the prospect of global, and Arab, support. That is an advance on the position of Gerald Kaufman, who on the ground that "the authority of the United Nations... must be supreme" has come close to saying that, should the UN lose its collective nerve, Labour would oppose "action by one or two countries". Mr Kinnock should use this debate to affirm his party's absolute commitment to seeing that aggression does not pay. The less daylight is glimpsed between the two main political parties today, the better the prospects for success in the dangerous weeks ahead.

SPORTING LINKS

The English cricket authorities should prepare for an official tour of South Africa. The international conference against apartheid in sport has just completed what may well be its last plenary meeting in Stockholm. Even such inveterate supporters of the sports boycott as Sam Ramsay, chairman of the anti-apartheid South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (Sanroc), declared that the resumption of sporting relations was no longer a matter of whether but of when.

The answer is now. Of all forms of the international isolation of South Africa, the sports boycott has been widely regarded as the most effective in undermining white complacency. The essence of sporting contest, on pitch or track or against the clock, is that all men and women are equal. The exclusion from international sport of the sports-loving people of South Africa has symbolised the world's revulsion at the denial of sportsmanship that apartheid demanded.

Cricket was one of the first games to find that apartheid and sport were incompatible, when the South Africans tried to interfere in the racial composition of an England side in 1968. While cricket has not led the way in sports integration, its recent attempts to meet the terms set for ending the boycott have been valiant. In athletics and soccer integration has reached the stage where a national team of the best sportsmen could be assembled without race affecting selection, except insofar as economic deprivation has a race bias. Black sportsmen have brought their performance to a level where a South African national team in athletics or football would be mainly black.

The exclusion of a South African soccer team from all-African or even world competition is now wholly unreasonable. Opinion among the anti-apartheid lobbyists at Stockholm was divided on whether the lifting of the

OF BIRDS AND MEN

Britain's estuaries, mudflats and tidal reaches provide sustenance for some of the finest wildlife in Europe but as natural habitats they are at risk. A survey by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) of 123 estuaries, about 80 per cent of the total, has shown 80 to be under threat, a number from more than one source.

Around 30 are in "immediate danger of permanent damage", 49 are threatened by leisure developments, 33 by marinas, 29 by pollution and 29 by land reclamation. Projected barrages will impinge on 22 of them, industry is affecting 17 while 14 are involved in port expansion plans. The Humber, the Blackwater, the Medway and the Thames, the Severn, the Mersey, the Ribble, the Welsh Dee and the Wash are among those on the RSPB's danger list.

The effects are already apparent. The number of dunlin, the most common British wading bird — one third of the European total winter in this country — has been halved in the last 20 years. Between 1975 and 1987 the population of redshank fell by a quarter. Many other waterfowl and waders will die out if forced from their habitats and feeding grounds.

Britain has an international responsibility. In addition to those birds which regularly winter here, millions more stop briefly beside our estuaries while migrating south. The EC's 1979 directive on setting up special protection areas for birds and the 1971 Ramsar inter-

boycott should in the first instance be partial or total, and if total whether it should have to wait until all forms of sport are as fully integrated as the best. This presupposes that the discipline across world sport which has kept South Africa out — apart from maverick unofficial ventures disowned by sport authorities — can be maintained.

Lifting the boycott for one sport would almost certainly breach the dam for the rest, particularly as the boycott has been observed with a minimum of good grace in such sports as rugby. National political pressure has had to be continuous, for instance, to police the Commonwealth Gleneagles agreement. Discrimination between sports would undermine the moral force of such compacts. Why should a more or less white game like cricket still be under ban, for instance, simply because it did not appeal to the sporting tastes of black South Africans as much as football?

The re-establishment of sporting links with South Africa sooner rather than later would not just reward sportsmen in that country for their good behaviour. The justification for imposing the boycott in the first place was its impact, through sport, on white politics. South Africa's whites have started on a path that must lead to power-sharing with blacks. The biggest obstacle in the way of this path is the danger of a white backlash, even of a far-right coup. The restoration of sporting links would give the Nationalist government an invaluable tool to wave in the face of the right: reform does bring some advantages — and here, in the form of an England cricket team, is an international quid pro quo.

The Test and County Cricket Board has waved the stick, now it should offer the carrot. It should state as early as possible that the first post-apartheid cricket tour of South Africa is being scheduled for the winter of 1991.

Access to rivers

national convention which dealt with the preservation of wetlands placed obligations on the government which it has been less than energetic in fulfilling.

All human activities cannot be halted in the interests of preserving bird life. Britain is not a gigantic bird sanctuary. But yesterday's RSPB report underlines the need for a coastal conservation strategy which would determine and sort out national priorities. One already exists in California. Bird watchers would not be alone in benefiting from it. The piecemeal development of Britain's coastline has for too long been a national disgrace.

The government has acknowledged the environmental importance of Britain's estuaries. But the RSPB claims with justice that protective measures so far have been inadequate. A basic flaw is the lack of a Whitehall sub-department which might assume overall responsibility for the coastline. Its fate is at present determined by as many as 33 different departments.

This confusion is compounded at local government level. The variety of competing local interests is illustrated by the example of the Wash which is bordered by three county council areas. Only when the government takes control and lays down clear guidelines for all users will the weekend sailors, cockle diggers, water skiers, fish farmers, coastal industries and the birds come to terms with one another.

Agony and anger of UK hostages

From Ms Kirsty Norman

Sir, I have just had the immense good fortune to be one of the first hostages to be released from Iraq. Having been in Kuwait City for the first 2½ weeks of the invasion, I made an escape attempt across the desert with a small group of friends. However, we were arrested and that night found ourselves in the first wave of Westerners to be interned at strategic installations in Kuwait.

I would like to register a widely-felt protest at the lack of help and/or useful advice given by the British Embassy in Kuwait and at the inefficiency both of the embassy and the Foreign Office in collecting vital information.

During the first few days of the invasion it would have been possible to drive openly on the main route into Saudi Arabia; this I learned later from a Swiss national, who, while we British hid in our homes like frightened rabbits at the strong recommendation of our embassy, had been driving unmolested from end to end of the country, not to escape, but to collect information.

By the time I found out that it had been possible to leave and that British consular officials had been sent to the Saudi-Kuwait border to receive fleeing Britons those legal crossing points were closed to Westerners. Yet I had been registered with the British Embassy in order to be given information by area wardens.

After I had discovered that a group of which the embassy was aware were coordinating escape routes, the Iraqi net had tightened and we encountered road blocks and were arrested. The coordinators themselves were doing a brave and splendid job.

We were taken under armed escort to the Regency Palace hotel, where Western nationals were being assembled for indefinite internment. I rang my area warden, who showed no interest in taking the names of my group. I have since found that even my name never reached the British Embassy. The Regency Palace, of

and/or monetary tightening will be needed if inflation is not to accelerate beyond the ten per cent monthly rate it has reached.

Far from being backward in perestroika, Cambodia is an indication of the problems that a country may face from rapid economic liberalization. If and when the political situation is settled there will no doubt be much more interest in learning how Cambodia tackles its economic question.

You etc.,
MEGHINAD DESAI.

The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Department of Economics,
Houghton Street, WC2.

September 4.

Cambodian economy

From Professor Mehnad Desai

Sir, James Pringle (report, September 3) may well be correct in his political assessment of the Cambodian situation, but he is hasty in his judgment on the economy when he says, apropos of economic liberalization, that "in communist Asia, it is as if changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have been happening on another planet".

Having come back from a two-week visit to Cambodia at the end of July I can definitely say that for Cambodia economic liberalization started in January, 1989. This is as visible in the retail markets of Phnom Penh and Kompong Som (Siem Reap) as in the countryside which I was able to visit.

The agricultural sector is now overwhelmingly private and food procurement for domestic and export use is done by private traders as well as state agencies, the latter finding themselves at a considerable disadvantage. There is an almost uncontrolled growth of imports from hard-currency areas and extremely low rates of customs duties on most categories of imports.

For a country with 80 per cent of its labour force in agriculture the recovery of the rice output back to 1970 levels has helped stabilize the real economy. If there is a problem it is one of finding appropriate instruments of macro-economic control in an economy which has made a quick transition from a command to a mixed economy?

There is no income tax and the turnover tax, their main fiscal source, is so low that the state collects only about 2 per cent of its GNP in taxes. It spends about 5 per cent of its GDP so some fiscal

Disunited kingdom?

From Mrs Diane Morgan

Sir, Whenever it is suggested that Scotland has greater authority to run her own affairs there follows a response from unionists that this would lead to a "break-up of the United Kingdom". But what United Kingdom?

During the past month I have heard and read in purportedly "national" media of "the start of the school holidays", "the A-level results" and "the August Bank holiday", as if these events, relevant only in England and Wales, had a national status.

The concept of a United Kingdom vanished long ago, if it ever existed. Compilers of dictionaries of synonyms should note that "England" and "Britain" have an identical meaning.

Yours truly,
DIANE MORGAN
Rose House,
27 Rose Street, Aberdeen 1.

Youths in custody

From the Chief Executive of the National Children's Home

Sir, You report (August 27) on proposals for local remand units for young offenders. One area of great concern must be the plight of 14-year-old boys.

We must not forget that such children can still be sentenced to prison department custody. The numbers may be small (just 21 were held on June 30, 1988). But concern for 15 and 16-year-olds highlighted by your article must not allow anachronistic treatment of 14-year-olds to slip through unchallenged by reform.

The National Children's Home, as well as running exemplary alternative to custody projects around the country, will continue to remind ministers of the need to abolish prison custody for 14-year-olds in the forthcoming legislation arising from the White Paper, *Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public*.

Yours faithfully,
TOM WHITE, Chief Executive,

National Children's Home,
85 Highbury Park, N5.

September 1.

A taste of honey

From Mr R. A. Steele

Sir, Your report (August 24) about honey provides another glaring example of how the common agricultural policy of the EC pushes up the price of everyday commodities.

No mention is made of the fact that bee farmers are already protected by a massive 27 per cent tariff added to honey imported from outside the EC; this just goes to show the pittance that must be paid to bee farmers for their produce in these Third World economies when, after paying this tariff, the price to the consumer is under what EC honey retails for.

Nature dictates that bees will only survive where they collect enough honey to supply the hives for 12 months. That being so, to spend £560 a tonne to feed them inferior sugar suggests that the production of honey should be left to efficient producers who can extract excess honey and leave enough for the bees to winter over.

I remain, yours sincerely,
R. A. STEELE,
9 Holt Close,
Highgate Wood, N10.

September 1.

Access to rivers

From Dr G. H. Smith

Sir, It is now clear that confusion has been caused by your report (August 1) of the recent ruling by the Court of Appeal that the 1932 Rights of Way Act applies to rivers as well as footpaths. It has proved possible to read this report as saying that any previously un-disturbed river might now be invaded by craft of all kinds.

All the ruling means, in fact, is that the same standard of proof applies to highways on water as to footpaths and bridleways on land. Twenty years' use by the public

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More flexibility in pay bargaining

From the Director-General of the CBI

Sir, Unfortunately John Edmonds's article, "Putting pay in perspective" (August 29), fails to put pay in perspective. In particular readers can be forgiven for not realising some fundamental facts about pay and performance in the UK because they were not included:

Kirsty Norman is safe and well... She is at present staying with friends... we now know that foreign nationals in Kuwait, including 135 Britons, have been taken away to strategic locations...

During the eighties average earnings in the UK rose by 132 per cent (and house prices by 175 per cent incidentally) while the RPI rose by 77 per cent.

Skills differentials are very much lower in the UK than in West Germany and wages for unskilled young people are much closer to those for adults.

Annual investment in skills training by the private sector is running at record levels of well over £12 billion — a marked contrast with the days of training leviés and compulsion for which John Edmonds evidently yearns. CBI surveys suggest that far from being cut back this figure is set to increase in real terms.

Moreover, notwithstanding the current pause in growth, 1990 will see UK manufacturing output at an all-time high, along with record levels of exports and productivity. And investment is focusing on quality not price: the last CBI Innovation Trends survey showed the need to enhance quality is more than twice as important as

influence on investment intentions at the need to reduce costs.

However, this is no time to be complacent about the way pay is negotiated. The cost of reducing inflation in terms of unemployment appears to be much greater in the UK than in West Germany or the United States, never mind Japan. At present we could be in some danger of achieving the worst of both worlds: neither the local flexibility that should go with decentralised pay arrangements nor the overall control of wage increases claimed by the supporters of a national approach to pay determination.

Flexibility is the key, as John Edmonds recognises, and national wage bargains simply cannot reflect the local needs and opportunities for employers and employees alike. The trend to decentralisation of pay determination is accelerating in the private sector — this year saw the abandonment of national wage bargaining in the engineering industry for instance. It is time the public-service sector caught up rather than remaining stuck in the corporatist mud of the past.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BANHAM,
Director-General,
Confederation of British Industry,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street, WC1.
September 3.

From Lord Hamilton of Dalzell

Sir, May I comment on your report (August 22) on proposed cuts in the use of hotels for the homeless and the letter from Councillor Chalius (August 28).



COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
September 5: The Hon Mary Morrison has succeeded Mrs Robert de Pass as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

September 5: The Princess Royal this morning attended the Scottish Homes International Conference, Croydonbridge, Ayrshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Inverness (Lieutenant-Commander Lachlan Mackintosh of Mackintosh, RN).

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness, President, Royal Yachting Association attended a Council Meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

September 5: The Princess of Wales received Mr Jasper Wondrock and Mr Nicholas Dorn, of the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence, at Kensington Palace, W8.

KENSINGTON PALACE

September 5: The Duke of Gloucester today visited Cumbria and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cumbria (Sir Charles Graham, Bt).

In the morning His Royal

Highness opened the Treasury at Carlisle Cathedral.

In the afternoon The Duke of Gloucester visited Alcan Specialty Extrusions, Workington on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary and subsequently His Royal Highness opened Haig Enterprise Park, Whitehaven.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

September 5: The Duke of Kent this morning attended a Presidential Deputation of the Licensed Victuallers National Homes at the Brewers Society, Finsbury Square, London EC2.

Commander Roger Walker was in attendance.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Metropolitan Police Mounted Police Division's Training Establishment, Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey.

Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this evening attended the Royal World Charity Premiere of *Memphis Belle* in aid of the Leonard Cheshire Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief at the Empire Cinema, Leicester Square, London WC2.

Mrs Julian Tomkins was in attendance.

Mr J.E. Garton and Miss P.M. Britton

The engagement is announced between Mr Joseph, son of Mr and Mrs J.E. Garton, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Paula, daughter of Mr and Mrs P.J. Britton, of Colchester, Essex.

Mr C.J.N. McCrum and Miss P.A. Meyers

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mrs Carolyn and Dr N.G. McCrum, both of Oxford, and Pamela Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs George W. Meyers, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, USA.

Mr J.R. Salter and Miss M.C. Dearing

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs John Salter, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Miranda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Basil Dearing, of Great Malvern, Worcestershire.

Birthdays today

The Right Rev John Bickersteth, former Bishop of Bath and Wells, 69; Mr Mark Birch, jockey, 41; Mr Sherban Cantacuzino, secretary, Royal Fine Art Commission, 62; Sir Dermot Christopher, Durham University, 75; General Sir Peter Hellings, 74; Mr A.C. Hugh Smith, chairman, International Stock Exchange, 59; Sir John Johnson, diplomat, 60; Mr Roger Haw, author and puppeteer, 49; Sir Colin McColl, diplomat, 58; Mr George Macrae, chairman, TCCB, 72; Miss Monica Mason, ballerina, 49; Sir Peter Paine, former High Court judge, 77; Sir James Stubblefield, geologist, 89; Sir Anthony Wagner, former Carter King of Arms, 82; Mr J.R.C. Young, rugby player, 53; Sir William McEwan Younger, former chairman, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, 85.

Today's royal engagements

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester will attend a concert given by the Scottish National Orchestra at the City Hall, Glasgow, at 7.25 in aid of the East Park Home for Infirm Children.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Morden library and the civic headquarters for the London Borough of Merton at Crown House, London Road, Morden, at 4.00.

Princess Michael of Kent will open the Britannia Group and Dowry Group Development in Cheltenham at noon.

A reception was held at Camp Hill.

Mr C. Mayes and Miss R. Heywood

The marriage took place on Saturday September 1, at St Alban's Church, Macclesfield, Cheshire, elder son of Brigadier and Mrs Andrew Mayes, and Rachel, eldest daughter of Mr Brian Crack of Hythe, and Mrs Graham Fisher, also of Chiddington Causeway. The Rev John Lee officiated.

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A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Luncheons

West India Committee

Sir Michael Franklin, President of the West India Committee, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Westbury Hotel in honour of the Prime Minister of Grenada. The High Commissioners for Belize, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago were among those present.

Rotary Club of London

The Portuguese Ambassador attended a luncheon given by the Rotary Club of London yesterday at the Cafe Royal. Mr Nick Tarsh, president, was in the chair.

Norfolk Association of Agricultural Valuers

The 92nd annual general meeting was followed by a luncheon at Barnham Broom Hotel, Norfolk, yesterday. Mr J.G.P. Crowley, president, was in the chair and the speakers were the Right Hon Lord Prior, PC, and Mr E.A.R. Jones, President of the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers. Other guests included:

Captain J.S. Peel (Viscount Lieutenant), Mr N.A. Lowe and Mr R.C. Bradshaw, Councillor, the Country Landowners' Association and the National Farmers' Union; Rev W.M. Brown and Dr W.C.H. Laurie.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Marie-Joseph, Marquis de Lafayette, statesman and soldier, Chavagnac, France, 1757; John Dalton, chemist and physicist, Eaglesfield, Cumbria, 1766; Sir Godfrid Davies, composer, Oswestry, Shropshire, 1869; John James Michael, physiologist, pioneer of insulin, Nobel laureate, 1923; New Clunie, Tayside, 1876; Sir Edward Appleton, physicist, Nobel laureate 1947, Bradford, 1892.

DEATHS: George Alexander Stevens, dramatist and songwriter, Baldock, Hertfordshire, 1784; Hendrik Verwoerd, president of South Africa 1958-66, assassinated, Cape Town, 1966.

OBITUARIES

LORD CARADON

Lord Caradon, PC, GCMG, KCVO, OBE, who as Sir Hugh Foot was governor of Cyprus from 1957 to 1960 when the island achieved independence, died yesterday near Plymouth aged 82. He was born on October 8, 1907.

HUGH Foot possessed a rare combination of qualities and talent which enabled him to excel equally in administration, diplomacy and politics. As an administrator in the colonial service he was outstanding as district officer, chief secretary and governor. As a diplomat he achieved a formidable international reputation in the assemblies and corridors of the United Nations, and when he entered the House of Lords and became a Labour minister of state at the Foreign Office he showed that he was at ease and in command of his duties as a politician. He was strikingly eloquent and forceful both in oratory and debate, and this, allied to his liberal principles and his feeling for the susceptibilities and aspirations of dependent peoples and emergent nations, made him a powerful champion who never lacked the courage of his convictions. He was a great protagonist.

He was the second son of Isaac Foot, PC. The debt of inheritance and imbued characteristics and qualities which Foot, in common with other members of this remarkable family, owed to the father was immense. Isaac Foot, a passionate Liberal and a devout Methodist, was one of the great orators and preachers of his time. He was also a voracious reader, and he accustomed his children from an early age to the cut and thrust both of political and literary debate. Two other sons, Dingle and Michael, achieved distinction as radicals in parliament and in other fields, and a third became a Liberal life peer as Lord Foot.

Hugh Foot was educated at Leighton Park, a Quaker school, and at St John's College, Cambridge, where, like three of his brothers, at Oxford, he became president of the Union. He joined the colonial administrative ser-



vice in 1929 believing like others of his time that the preparation of dependent peoples for self-government combined unique opportunities for the practical application of liberal ideas with the satisfactions of an out-of-doors overseas career. His early years were spent in Palestine and Trans-Jordan where he became familiar with the harsh pressures and conflicts of race and religion in the Middle East. During this period he also spent two years at the Colonial Office where he learned, sometimes to his surprise, how affairs were conducted in Whitehall and Westminster. In 1943 he was appointed chief secretary in Cyprus at the early age of 36, and it was already clear that his abilities and personality would soon take him to the top.

In 1945 he was transferred to Jamaica where he became a member of the British armed forces and elsewhere. In these difficult circumstances Foot did not escape criticism himself. Many Europeans in Nigeria felt that he went out of his way to arouse unnecessary political activity, while some African politicians suspected him of trying to divide and rule.

In 1951 he was made captain-general and governor-in-chief of Jamaica. Already an OBE and CMG, he was knighted in the same year. Sir Hugh Foot's six years as governor of Jamaica were notably fruitful, successful and happy. He gained the confidence both of Sir Alexander Bustamante and of Michael Manley who succeeded him as chief minister, and he played a considerable part in the negotiations which led to the short-lived federation of the West Indies in 1958. He was widely adjudged a good

governor, and there were many who expected that he would become the first governor-general of the West Indies. Instead, in the autumn of 1957, he was offered and accepted the more challenging and less comfortable task of succeeding Field-Marshal Sir John Harding as governor of Cyprus.

Soon after he arrived Foot made a number of tours on foot and on horseback in order to show himself freely to the Greek and Turkish communities to try and win their respect and confidence. If there was an element of showmanship in this gesture it was also not without some personal danger, and it made a favourable impression on the Greek Cypriots. It was less enthusiastically received by the Turks. It did go some way, however, in establishing Foot's reputation among the Turkish armed forces and others concerned with administration and law and order in Cyprus who had regarded the field-marshal with a veneration which seemed unlikely to be extended to his successor.

In January 1958 Sir Hugh Foot returned to London with proposals which formed the basis of talks held in Ankara

when an offer of a Turkish government in Cyprus was believed to have been put forward as a substitute to partition. Foot was present at these talks during which serious Turkish protest riots took place in Cyprus. He also paid a visit to Archbishop Makarios in Athens. After the failure of these proposals Foot paid a further visit to London in May bringing with him new plans which formed the basis of the British government's statement of policy of June 19. It provided for shared administration of the island. There were to be two communal assemblies, one Greek and one Turkish plus a governor's council with an elected majority and representatives of the Greek and Turkish governments. This arrangement was to last seven years. Its main object perhaps was to win a respite while a more enduring solution was worked out.

It needed all Foot's considerable powers of persuasion to gain support for his plan in London. There were those who felt that it did not take sufficient account of British and Nato defence needs. Opposition leaders felt inhibited by the commitment that Cyprus would be offered majority self-determination by the next Labour government. In the event the plan came to nothing. In July, following renewed terrorism, Foot had to impose further restrictions. Eventually a settlement was reached by direct negotiation between the Greek and Turkish governments and the British government. The terms were renounced, generous safeguards provided for the Turkish minority, and independence assured subject to the retention of two British sovereign bases. Cyprus finally achieved independence in July 1960, and Foot's government came to an end.

He was 53 but not a retiring man. In the following year he was made Britain's representative on the United Nations trusteeship council with the rank of ambassador. He resigned 15 months later on a question of principle, as his father had done 30 years

before from the National government. His reason was the British government's failure to intervene in the banning by the Southern Rhodesian authorities of Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union at a time when the trusteeship council was calling for Mr Nkomo's release and for the ban to be lifted. Foot's standing at the United Nations was such that he was soon afterwards appointed as a consultant to the special fund for African development and named as one of the international experts to inquire into apartheid in South Africa.

With the return of a Labour government to power in 1964 Foot was made a life peer as Lord Caradon, and appointed permanent United Kingdom representative at the United Nations. For the next five years he was in the thick of controversies and conflicts over problems arising from Rhodesia's unilateral declaration of independence. He was also closely concerned with similar problems resulting from South Africa's administration of the mandated territory of South West Africa. He acquired a considerable reputation in the United Nations for the tenacity and skill with which he handled these often explosive situations, and when the Conservative Party won the election of 1970 Lord Caradon was asked to stay on as consultant to the United Nations Development Programme.

Hugh Foot had a strong feeling for Cornwall and Plymouth, and he remained there to live for a time in an elegant Georgian house in the medieval inner bailey of Trematon Castle on the Cornish side of the Tamar overlooking Plymouth Sound. London, though, was too far away. With his wife Florence, whom he had married in 1936, he moved back to be close to Westminster, where he continued to contribute to debates until a major illness in 1988.

His three sons, one of whom is the journalist Paul Foot, and a daughter survive him; Florence died in 1985. His autobiography, *A Start in Freedom*, appeared in 1964.

IRENE DUNNE

Irene Dunne, Hollywood leading lady of the 1930s and 1940s, died on September 4 aged 88. She was born on December 20, 1901.

SMALL, trim and with a pleasing soprano voice, Irene Dunne was a polished and dedicated performer much admired by her fellow actors. She appeared with equal effect in the widest possible range of films, which spanned straight dramas and tear-jerkers through musicals to crazy comedies. In straight parts her trademark was a ladylike dignity, while her wit and superb timing made her ideal for comedy.

In her heyday she was one of Hollywood's highest paid stars. But despite the range of her talent it was a mark of her standing in the industry that in a career of comparatively few films she was five times nominated for the Oscar for best actress. It was her sadness that she never won it.

Of Irish descent, she was born Irene Dunn into a wealthy family in Louisville, Kentucky. Her father was a steamship inspector for the federal government and her mother an accomplished pianist. When she came to appear in *Show Boat* on stage and on screen she should have been well versed in the ways of mighty rivers and their traffic.

After a convent education Irene won a scholarship to the Chicago College of Music to study singing with the ambition of becoming an opera singer. She auditioned at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, but was rejected as being, in her own words, "too young, too inexperienced, too slight, too everything". The setback was only temporary. She turned to musical comedy, making her debut in the lead role of the touring production of *Irene*.

During and after the war styles changed and the crazy comedy faded from popularity. But she had little difficulty making the transition to more serious roles and the playing of older women. In contrast to many other stars she took on characters considerably older than

herself with every sign of enjoyment. In 1946 she was the Victorian governess Anna Leonowens in *Anna and the King of Siam*, a subject which later produced the musical *The King and I*. She was in two other period films, *I Remember Mama*, as the matriarch of a Norwegian family in America at the turn of the century which brought her fifth Oscar nomination.

She stayed with dramatic parts for a while but by the mid-Thirties she had returned to her first vocation as a singer in Jerome Kern musicals. *Sweet Adeline* was followed by *Roberta*, where she gave a memorable rendition of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" and *Show Boat*, in which she repeated her stage part of Magnolia. A fourth Kern film was *High, Wide and Handsome*. She demonstrated her aptitude for melodrama in *Magnificent Obsession*, as a widow accidentally blinded by Robert Taylor, and blossomed as a comedienne in *Theodora Goes Wild*, as a prim New Englander who writes a daring book, and in *The Awful Truth*.

In the last her co-star was Cary Grant, and their partnership was resumed with great success for *My Favorite Wife* and *Penny Serenade*. Another notable screen partner was Charles Boyer. They played together in the romantic comedy *Love Affair*, which she regarded as one of her favourite pictures, and in *When Tomorrow Comes*. These four films, made between 1939 and 1941, represent the peak of her career. Her acting was mature and assured, she was felicitously cast, and she had a perfect rapport with her leading men.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

Now, in what can I compare the people in his day? They are like children growing up to the other. One plays, the other laughs but you wouldn't notice. We sang funeral songs but you wouldn't cry.

Matthew 11.16.17.

BIRTHS

ACLAND - On September 2nd to Miranda (née Dugdale) and Michael, a daughter, Kristel Katherine Elizabeth. **ALLEN** - On August 25th to Miranda, a son, Andrew and Simon, a daughter, Georgina Lore, a sister for Andrew and John. **BLAISTON** - On August 30th to University College Dublin and Caroline (née Dugdale) and Simon, a daughter, Gabrielle Caroline Elizabeth. **BROWN** - On September 2nd 1990, to Stephen (née Dugdale) and Joanne, a daughter, Elizabeth. **CARLSON** - On September 2nd to Stephen and Christopher, a son, Andrew Benjamin, a brother, and a daughter, Jennifer. **DALTON** - On June 20th 1990, to Therese Janis and Nancy Anne, a son, Alex Nicholas. **JOHNSON** - On August 29th in Bermuda, to Karen (née Dugdale) and Michael, twins, Adam Nicholas and Daniel. **MENWORTHY** - On September 2nd at 8.35 am in Oxford to Linda (née Cole Hulley) and Brian, a son, Christopher James, weight 8lb 4oz. **LAWRENCE** - On September 4th to The Portland Hospital to Philip and Joanne, a son, Jack. **MCNAUL** - On September 3rd to Stephen and Christopher, a son, Anthony and a daughter, Katherine Grace. **MORRISON** - On August 17th to Elizabeth (née Williamson) and Simon, a son, Edward Leighton, a brother for Eleanor. **PARKER** - On September 3rd to Sarah (née Bennett) and Mark, a son, Hunter Lee Francis. **SCOTT** - On Tuesday September 4th at 1.02 pm at Newmarket General Hospital to Tina (née Hammonds) and Peter, a son, Paul Wynn Rhys and a daughter, Helen. **TURNER** - On August 29th to Jet and Simon, a son, Jonathan. **LOU** - A first grandchild to Sue and Marilyn Roche and Doug and Beryl Turner, Great grand-daughter to Sue and Pearl D'Amour and Pearl Turner and Rob Partridge. **TYLER** - On September 3rd at The Portland Hospital to Lucy and David, a daughter, Charlotte Louise. **WINTHORN** - On August 24th 1990 to Julie (née Moulton) and Simon, a son, Peter, a brother, and Lucas. **WHITE** - On September 3rd to Jim (née Bourne) and Rosemary, a son, Edward. **WINTER** - On September 2nd at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Do (née Fitter) and Richard, a daughter, Hannah Louise.

ANNIVERSARIES

BUCHOP - Edgar and Eddie on 5 September 1915. **RUBY** - 75 anniversaries and every soon with from the Society for Promoting the Christian Knowledge on a night. **THOMAS** - 75 years together.

DEATHS

CHESSUM - On September 3rd 1990 peacefully in hospital after a brave struggle. **THOMAS** - Fredric, beloved husband of Amy, devoted and much loved father of Christopher, David and Robert. Funeral at St John the Baptist Church, Blackley, on Friday September 7th at 2pm. Flowers to Woking Funeral Service (0483) 772256.

SEPT 6

ON THIS DAY

1891

Much of Dame Marie Tempest's early career was spent abroad, so that British audiences came to know her best in her later years, playing gay, sophisticated parts in comedies. This ecstatic notice shows her dazzling qualities in middle age before undertaking a prolonged stay in Australia and the United States.

THE PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE "Art and Opportunity" Every new appearance of Miss Marie Tempest is a fresh delight. True, she is always presenting the same thing — herself. But here is a very sordid self, and she can always find for you some unanticipated surprises, some very latest fashion of herself, like the very latest fashion of her gown.

This, it is our firm belief, she could do unaided, without having to impersonate any fictitious personage, without any play at all. But, being an actress, she must needs have a play round her, and whatever the play may be like in itself, she manages to make it reflect her own brilliance. Is Mr. Chaplin's "Art and Opportunity" really as bright as it seems? Or is it only bright with the brightness of Miss Tempest? Well, it doesn't matter, since we haven't to consider the play without Miss Tempest.

Now, for that matter, we can really consider the play with Miss Tempest. We cannot consider the play; we can only consider Miss Tempest. What is the secret of her extraordinary charm? Is it her peculiar shrug? The tilt of her nose? Her way not of sitting but of suddenly "plumping" down? Her deft management of skirt as the trots upstairs? Her regal glance? The timbre of her voice? The slope of her shoulders? Her unerring taste in hats? The sudden unturning of her parasol?

But we must give it up. If Miss Tempest could be analysed and explained she would not be Miss Tempest... Still, we must make another shot. We suggest that her

charm lies in her gift of flattery. As soon as she is left alone with a man on the stage she at once conveys to him, by a gesture, a change of tone, a tap of the arm, a gaze straight into the eye, that he, happy being, and he alone, is the man who interests her. Never mind the others, they don't count; with him, pre-eminently with him, exclusively with him, and oh so delightfully with him, she can be natural, confidential, can lay bare her heart. Of course a woman with that particular gift can turn any man round her finger. Miss Tempest, by dint of it not only charms — fictitiously and for the purposes of the play — the man on the stage, but in good earnest every man in the house. She charms all the women, too, because they feel she represents them and their own charm. She asserts the triumph of their sex. And so we are all made happy.

What Miss Tempest is, then, is what matters; what she happens to impersonate is merely of subsidiary importance. What she happens to impersonate in Mr. Chaplin's play is a little widow introduced into a ducal family as young Lord Algarion's fiancée — on trial. As she is a "nobody from nowhere" the ducal family wish to be rid of her, and try various means to that end. In truth it is neither dukes nor earls she is after — but love. She finds love in the Duke's private secretary, a "nobody from nowhere," like herself.

That's all the story, and it is of course nothing, a sprightly, witty, occasionally epigrammatic (for we must really give Mr. Chaplin, a new author, full of promise, his due) nothing. It is played with ease and finish by all concerned. But they are all mostly commentary to Miss Tempest, which is just what they are required to be. Miss Tempest is the mainstay of the entertainment, the entertainment.

These playgoers whom Miss Tempest does not entertain had better stay away. This is a queer world, and there may be such unfortunates, just as there are some people who don't like caviare and Chateau Yquem. But the theatrical epicure will take good care not to miss the delicious *bonne bouche* known as Marie Tempest.

But we must give it up. If Miss Tempest could be analysed and explained she would not be Miss Tempest... Still, we must make another shot. We suggest that her

FRASER - On September 5th 1990, Len Carton of St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada, died at his home, Beech Hill Nursing Home, Medes Wood, Bedford James Turner, aged 89, died at his home, 1000 Lillian, dear father of Jean and grandmother of Alastair and Louise. **FARRELL** - Pauline, wife of John Jones and mother of Jones and Carter. Private cremation. **FEARON** - Mrs. Eileen, wife of John Feardon, died at 12.45am on Saturday 29th August 1990 at Golders Green Crematorium, at 1.45pm. **FERGUSON** - Mrs. Barbara, widow of George Ferguson, died at 10.30pm on Saturday 29th August 1990 at Golders Green Crematorium, at 1.45pm. **FINN** - Mrs. Mary, wife of John Finn, died at 12.45am on Saturday 29th August 1990 at Golders Green Crematorium, at 1.45pm. **GARRETT** - On August 26th 1990, the Reverend Rowland Powell, son of husband of Revd. and Mrs. Rowland Powell, died at 1.30pm on Saturday 29th August 1990 at Golders Green Crematorium, at 1.45pm. **HOBBS** - On August 26th 1990, Beloved wife of Charles, mother of Jean and mother-in-law of David Rutherford.

HODGKIN - On August 26th 1990, Beloved wife of Charles, mother of Jean and mother-in-law of David Rutherford.

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Sophisticated electronic gadgetry, capable of working faultlessly round the clock, may become the farm hands of the future, Nick Nuttal reports

MICHAEL POWELL

Robot milkmaids with green fingers

A herd of dairy cows in Britain is being groomed for an experiment which may take research in farming robotics a crucial step forward. Plans are afoot to create a robot milkmaid designed by researchers at the Agricultural and Food Research Council's (AFRC) Institute of Agricultural Engineering Research at Wrexham Park, Silsoe, Bedfordshire. The robot would be able to place two, possibly four, milking cups on cows' teats without the need for human hands.

Preliminary studies have shown that a robot milkmaid can, by being available round the clock, boost dairy yields by as much as 15 per cent. Cows suckle their young several times a day, so they prefer frequent, small, milkings rather than a single morning session, studies have found.

The herds soon fall into a routine of strolling into the milking parlour as the mood takes them, says Michael Moncaster, head of the institute's information engineering division.

Here they are milked by the robot and automatically checked for signs of mastitis and hormone fluctuations which may indicate the animal is on heat. At the heart of the system are sensors which can relay to the robot the exact position of the cow in a stall. A

sensor first reads an electronic tag on the cow's neckband, which is checked by a computer system that carries information on each cow, including when it was last milked. As the cups are moved towards the udders, sensors in each cup allow the robot arm to fine-tune the fitting.

The benefits to the farmer are obvious. More time can be spent caring for the cows and doing other tasks around the farm.

Vast milking parlours, which can accommodate a whole herd, become unnecessary, as just a few robots can replace the numerous man-controlled machines.

The robot milkmaid has already mastered placing one cup at a time on a cow, but if the more complicated task of placing multiple cups on teats, planned for the end of the year, can be achieved, it will be a breakthrough.

Mr Moncaster says preliminary trials indicate that the robot milkmaid is a hit with the herd because it is more sensitive than a human hand.

Meanwhile, researchers in Australia promise the introduction of a robot sheep shearer this year. They hope this can meet the growing shortfall of skilled men willing to do the back-breaking work.

In Britain, the push to develop

robots for farming, horticulture and food applications is centred on a committee of academic researchers and companies formed in the wake of the government's Advanced Robotics initiative, launched two years ago.

The committee, set up after a recent seminar held at AFRC Silsoe, intends to meet before the end of the year to draw up a short list of the most useful fields in which robots might be applied.

Mr Moncaster believes that the list will be headed by robotic micropropagation. The technique relies on cutting plants, such as chrysanthemums, into small pieces at the nodes which lie between the stem and the leaves, and transplanting these cuttings into a growing medium. From a small stock, a flower farmer can rapidly build up a vast number of plants for sale in a series of three week cycles.

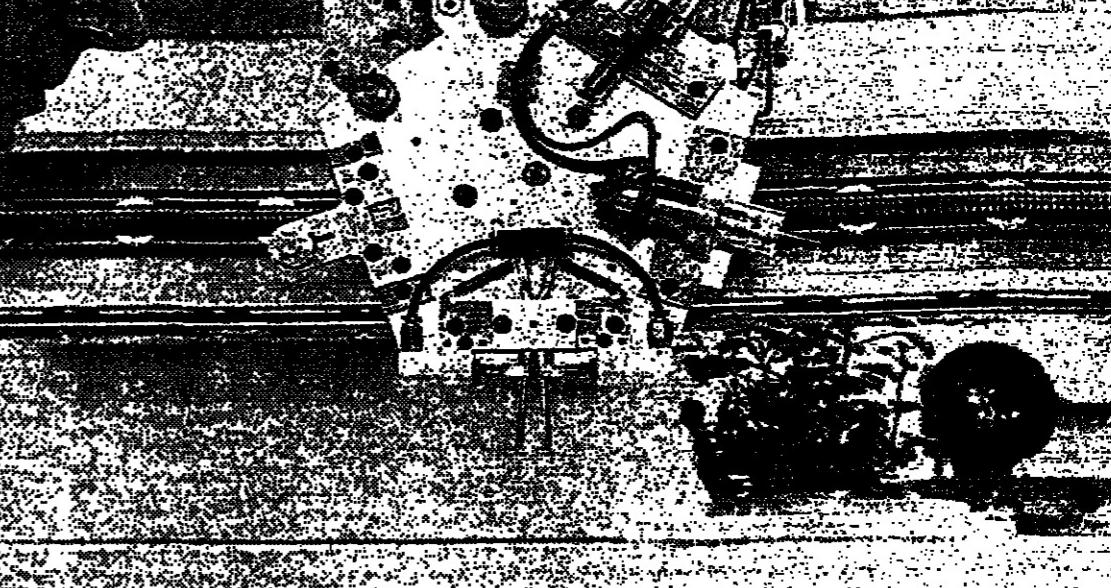
However, the work is labour intensive, requires hygienic conditions to ensure the plants are healthy and, ideally, needs uniform cutting and planting to maximise cost effectiveness.

"The work is currently done by people who are efficient, but they can get tired and lose concentration after about two hours, whereas a robot can run 24 hours, producing exact results under clean

conditions," Mr Moncaster says.

The institute has been developing a system for cutting plant pieces which uses imaging analysis technology, pioneered by the team for screening vegetables, to try to guide the robot to the stem node.

The team is experimenting with



Advanced robotics: Michael Moncaster with a robotic micro-propagator which will cut and plant cuttings for flower farmers

neural networks, computer systems that are wired to mimic the functions of the human brain, which are connected to a robot's television camera.

A similar system may be also adapted for the more delicate and challenging job of picking mushrooms. "Mushrooms are particu-

larly interesting. They are a delicate, high value crop, grown indoors in confined conditions," Mr Moncaster says.

In the past few years, the Silsoe team has been developing a system which can identify individual mushrooms and recognise those mature enough to be picked.

Mr Moncaster says that if a robot can harvest mushrooms, it is possible that many other crops could be harvested by intelligent machines. These may now be operated by a farmer in the field but, one day, they may act autonomously or be controlled remotely from a computer.

Electrons could help to protect ozone by combining with chlorine atoms to make them inactive.

However, even if this basic theory is found to be correct, the practical problems of using radio waves, or for that matter any other kind of electromagnetic radiation, to conserve ozone are likely to be immense.

"There is some good chemistry and physics in these experiments, but the amount of energy you would need to pump into the atmosphere to have any real effect is huge," says Dr Joe Farman, a member of the British Antarctic Survey Group, which discovered the ozone hole.

However, the cure could prove to be worse than the disease, because the amount of fossil fuel that would have to be burnt to generate that energy could increase global warming.

DAVID CONCAR

© Nature, Times News Service 1990



A scientist measuring solar radiation at the North Pole

High altitude aircraft measurements have strengthened the suspicion that serious ozone depletion is occurring over the North Pole as well as the South Pole. Although an ozone hole comparable to the one detected at the South Pole has not been found, the measurements show that up to 35 per cent of ozone in air at the North Pole is lost during the Arctic winter. Previous studies indicated seasonal losses of about 12 per cent.

The measurements were made by Dr Michael Pruiti, of Colorado University, and his colleagues last winter and are reported in this week's *Nature* magazine. "If this is true, then ozone losses in the Arctic in winter are not much less than in the Antarctic spring," says Dr Alan Plumb, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He adds, however, that the effects of the depletion are less

dramatic because Arctic ozone, unlike Antarctic ozone, is being resupplied through atmospheric circulation at about the rate at which it is being destroyed. The northern hemisphere's air movements produce a constant flux of fresh, ozone-rich air into the atmosphere of the polar vortex, the region where ozone losses are most severe. Nevertheless, the new study is likely to increase fears about the safety of atmospheric ozone in the whole northern hemisphere.

Research published earlier this year suggests that in the past 20 years Europe's ozone layer has thinned by about 3 per cent. The study may also spur efforts to develop strategies for repairing the ozone layer.

Electrons could help to protect ozone by combining with chlorine atoms to make them inactive.

However, even if this basic theory is found to be correct, the practical problems of using radio waves, or for that matter any other kind of electromagnetic radiation, to conserve ozone are likely to be immense.

"There is some good chemistry and physics in these experiments, but the amount of energy you would need to pump into the atmosphere to have any real effect is huge," says Dr Joe Farman, a member of the British Antarctic Survey Group, which discovered the ozone hole.

However, the cure could prove to be worse than the disease, because the amount of fossil fuel that would have to be burnt to generate that energy could increase global warming.

DAVID CONCAR

© Nature, Times News Service 1990

Heading for another pole with a hole?

Airborne American scientists have found thinning in the ozone layer over the Antarctic

In recent years the ozone problem has stretched scientific ingenuity and the result is a plethora of imaginative "solutions" that veer close to science fiction. This trend continues in California, where researchers, led by Alfred Wong, of the University of California at Stanford, are to investigate whether high-powered radio waves could, in principle, be used to conserve ozone in the stratosphere.

Their experiments will be carried out in Alaska using a high-powered transmitter to send radio waves into the upper atmosphere and a ground-based laser system to monitor their effects on ozone concentration.

Elsewhere in the United States, research into high-powered radio waves has led to a surprising discovery about the atmospheric effects of lightning. Although it has long been known that lightning bolts generate ozone in the lower atmosphere, where it serves no purpose, their effects on the upper atmosphere have been harder to discover.

Earlier this year, however, Dr Umar Juan, at Stanford, succeeded in simulating these effects

using a radio-wave transmitter. His results show that continuous transmission of very low frequency radio waves, of the kind produced momentarily by lightning, causes electron heating in the upper atmosphere by converting ozone-eating chlorine into a more benign form.

Previously, researchers had bothered to look only for signs of atmospheric heating from high-frequency radio waves.

Atmospheric ozone is depleted by chlorine atoms that are released from chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases by the action of ultra-violet sunlight.

A powerful radio wave passing through the upper atmosphere heats it up and generates free, fast-moving electrons. In theory, these

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NO AGENCIES

Sounds like a great ding-dong

The imminent launch in Britain of the first proper digital audio tape recorder, which gives compact disc quality sound coupled with the ability to record, marks the start of a public war between the music and electronics industries and a secret war between individual groups of electronics companies.

The launch of DAT, more than three years later than planned, results from last summer's agreement between the western record companies and the Japanese electronics industry.

The first recorders in Britain, from Sony's subsidiary Aiwa, will be on sale next month at £600, although the price is expected to fall if a mass market develops and the recorders become integrated into a new generation of stereo systems.

The recorder, claimed by Aiwa to be the world's smallest and lightest, can be connected to a stereo for home use, will work with batteries and headphones as a personal stereo, and can be used as a car hi-fi with an attachment. It will take two-hour tapes smaller than those used in conventional cassette recorders. The tape automatically numbers record tracks during recording to give an indexing system similar to that provided by CDs.

Other Japanese companies, including JVC, Denon, Technics and Sony, will produce recorders soon after. Sony is already selling DAT recorders in the United States.

Confusion surrounds the Serial Copy Management System (SCMS), which is at the heart of all the DAT recorders due to go on sale. All the

Barry Fox predicts a war between the music and electronics industries and a fight between the makers of a revolutionary recorder that will rival compact discs



Small miracle: the hand-held digital audio tape recorder and a diagram of how recorders have progressed

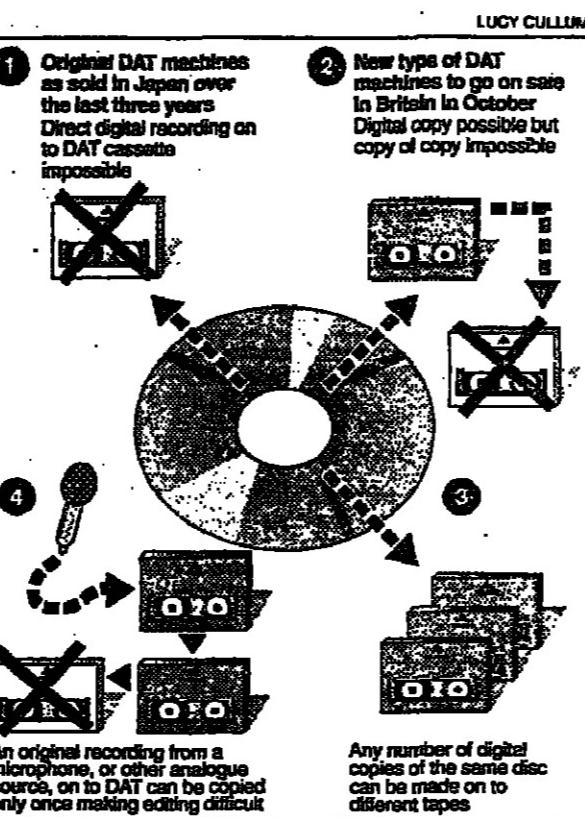
signs are that the record companies did not understand the significance of the technology to which they agreed. In fact, SCMS is the same as the Solocopy system that Philips proposed to the record companies three years ago, but which they then rejected out of hand. Now, as then, SCMS/Solocopy provides only illusory protection against the digital

cloning or copying of tape copies of commercial music recordings that the record companies fear. Paradoxically, it prevents creative tape recordists from editing their own original recordings, which represent no threat to the record companies.

The first DAT recorders launched in 1987 were officially sold only in Japan, but were unofficially available

as expensive "grey imports" around the world. In an extraordinarily generous move, never technically appreciated by the record companies, the Japanese manufacturers voluntarily crippled these machines to prevent digital copying, so that they sold poorly.

In June 1989, the International Federation of the Phonographic



Industry (IFPI) agreed to the worldwide sale of DAT recorders that could copy digitally, provided they incorporated SCMS/Solocopy circuitry to prevent cloning. That is, copying copies. When the recorder digitally copies music from a CD on to tape, the SCMS/Solocopy circuit automatically writes an inaudible identification code into the bit stream on tape. Any other DAT recorder registers this code and refuses to copy the digital signal, so the copy tape cannot be copied.

There is, however, nothing to stop people from making several copies of a CD on to as many different tapes as they like. This takes no longer than copying tape copies. So the DAT machines now going on sale with the record companies' blessing are more of a threat to the record industry than the DAT machines they rejected. However, when a recording is made from an analogue source, such as a microphone, the circuits allow only one copy to be made.

As a result, enthusiasts will be unable to edit original recordings of interviews or birdsong or amateur music tapes, for example, because the only way to edit digital tapes is to copy them several times, just as video tapes are edited.

Sony has its own fallback product, simplified and miniaturised, known as Micro-DAT. So far, Sony talks about Micro-DAT only as a format for dictation, but the play is obvious. Micro-DAT could well be the ideal cheap and simple pocket digital audio format for the future.

Hong Kong staff reject Britain

Skills shortages mean vacancies exist in the colony for British IT specialists

JOBSCENE

for the demand from IT staff wanting to find employment outside the colony. They report few requests for jobs in Britain. "The United States and Australia, in particular, offer a cosmopolitan environment and have more compatible cultures than the UK, where the Hong Kong person does not feel particularly welcome," says Tony Antoniades, the managing director of Erolink.

Australian companies looking for high-tech staff frequently advertise in the Hong Kong press, offering relocation and assistance in gaining citizenship as part of the package.

Canada and Australia are top of the list for skilled IT workers

The high-level of emigration has led to a severe shortage of IT skills in Hong Kong, creating more opportunities for British specialists as many employers are importing staff to fill the gap, mainly at project leader or managerial level. Many of the middle-management people have left. Mr Antoniades says that although the gap is being filled by promotions from within, it takes time to build up these management skills, so there are many vacancies.

One advantage for any British IT specialist wanting to work in Hong Kong is that work-long work permits are issued at the airport on arrival, and English is the dominant language.

About 90 per cent of vacancies are for IBM staff, the remainder for those with experience of Digital Equipment systems. The demand for personal computer and Unix skills is growing rapidly.

Salaries are about £1,500 a week for experienced contract analyst/programmers. Rented accommodation is expensive but salaries are increasing as the shortages worsen. Many companies are also seeking graduates with computer science degrees or diplomas.

LESLIE TILLEY

Beware the identified flying objects

Hundreds of miles above Earth, deadly litter orbits at 20,000 miles an hour

will break up and deflect some hazardous objects.

The telescope mission will allow Nasa to decide if a similar, debris tracking instrument, allied to laser-powered collision avoidance systems, is needed to better defend the station and its crew during Freedom's 30-year life.

The findings may also lead to new communication satellites and other craft being fitted with armour plating as way of securing the world's telephone, ship navigation and other satellite-linked networks from debris-induced disruptions.

Orbiting refuse, which in

cludes defunct boosters, fragmented rockets, flecks of paint and even a pair of discarded astronaut's gloves, has grown alarmingly since space missions first began but the exact level is not known.

Ground-based radar, which is able to track only objects bigger than three inches in low earth orbit (up to 400 miles high) and one metre debris in geostationary orbit (about 22,000 miles high), has around 7,000 items in its sights.

What worries Nasa are the tiny fragments, sometimes travelling at speeds of up to 20,000 mph and capable of impacting with the force of a

10-ton locomotive, that are going undetected.

New calculations by scientists indicate that up to one million 2mm items are in orbit, with the number growing as debris smashes into debris, splintering into more deadly particles.

Dr Faith Vilas of the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, Texas, and the space telescope's chief scientist, says Nasa is "seriously worried that an astronaut could be hit by the debris outside of the station".

An early warning system of potentially hazardous debris in orbit might give the astronaut a few vital minutes to retire to the relative safety of the space station.

NICK NUTTALL

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HEALTH

MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttaford

The Ministry of Defence's spokeswoman was genuinely surprised and slightly outraged when questioned about the suggestion that Iraqi soldiers had footwear better adapted for the desert than the British. She said that although she normally spoke for the army, and most of the expeditionary force were from the RAF, she would immediately have heard if there had been any trouble with feet or boots. The spokeswoman was right; boots and the army are irretrievably linked in everybody's minds. Soldiers have been taught to care for their boots (and feet) as carefully as their rifles, for a limping soldier is a liability. Down the ages, while the troops have been nurturing their boots, manufacturers have either made or lost fortunes supplying them. Wellington's armies found their boots sadly lacking in substance and suffered appalling foot troubles in consequence; so much so that in 1812 Sir Marc Isambard Brunel, the engineer and inventor (and father of Isambard Kingdom Brunel), was asked by Wellington to help. Brunel de-

Heavy on their feet

signed and built a machine which could turn out 400 good boots a day in any of nine different sizes, but after Waterloo the army cancelled the contract and Brunel went bankrupt. He was only prised from the King's Bench jail in Southwark by Wellington, who raised £5,000 to settle the debts.

In the Falklands, cold and damp rather than heat were the problems. At the time it seemed to those who had to wear them that the British boot was less efficient than those issued to other armies at preventing trench foot, the scourge of first world war infantrymen, which had made an unwelcome comeback. Subsequently army boot design has been changed. The



Strong-arm tactics

The news that the Prince of Wales had decided to have further surgery on his forearm in Nottingham must have been received by the hospital administrators with emotions similar to those of an Elizabethan landowner when he learnt that the monarch and her entourage were planning a visit — delight at the honour, apprehension at the cost.

Although the Prince may find it hard to believe now, he has been comparatively fortunate; fractures to the lower third of the humerus are notoriously difficult. Non-union is one of the complications which is usually amenable to treatment. Damage to the radial nerve with paralysis of the muscles of the wrist, thumb and some of the fingers might have caused permanent wrist drop and would have been much worse, better to go through life with a stiff elbow, as he well may do, than a feeble wrist. Likewise damage to the brachial artery, which can occur if the injury is just above the elbow, may so deprive the forearm muscles of nourishment that they become fibrous, and the hand contracts to a useless claw.

A forehead protects the eyes, tucked away as they are beneath eaves formed by the front bones, not only from physical injury but, when the patient is upright, from the overhead rays of the sun. However, when people lie stretched out on Mediterranean beaches with their faces turned towards the sun, the eyes are no longer in the shadow of the forehead and damage may be done to the lens and the light-sensitive cells of the retina. In men additional protection is provided by a ridge of bone beneath the eyebrow, the supra-orbital ridge.

Plating the fracture does not always ensure subsequent union, and some can be very loath to heal, but results have been much better since the support and stability given by the plate have been supplemented by bone grafting, with tiny chips taken from the crest of the hip.

Excellent as his chef is reported to be at preparing nouvelle cuisine and vegetarian dishes, some doctors might question if it was a good idea to include him in the royal entou-

rage. The Prince, who has been a keen follower of the local hunt, is now being cared for by experienced surgeons who have looked after many hunting injuries. But most hunting people eat a rich, varied diet. High vitamin and mineral levels encourage quick healing and active bone growth, and vitamins are better absorbed by meat eaters than vegetarians. Perhaps for the next few weeks the Prince should share his hunting friends' taste in food as well as in surgeons.

Trench foot is technically known as damp cold injury. When afflicted the feet become numb, swollen, pale and clammy, with soggy, macerated skin. The damage may have long-term effects; even though destruction to the deep tissues is less likely than with frostbite, months later the feet may still be swollen, sweaty and painful.

Sweaty feet will be the problem in the desert too, and, as in damp cold injury, the skin is soggy and macerated. Fortunately treatment for any complicating fungal or yeast skin infections, commonly known as athlete's foot or foot rot, has improved since the British army was last in the desert. Doctors have now replaced Whitehead's varnish, and various other time-hallowed powders, with the imidazole and triazole antifungals, which as well as being available in the traditional powder and cream form can also be taken by mouth (the drugs Sporanox and Diflucan), sprayed on (Pevaryl), or, if the nails are infected, used as a paint (Trosyl). Modern remedies are infinitely more effective than Whitehead's, and more hygienic and safer than the folk remedy of persuading a dog to lick the infected toes.

"In theory, anything which can be done on humans can be done on animals," says Gary Clayton Jones, an orthopaedic and thoracic surgeon and the director of the Queen Mother Hospital for Animals at the Royal Veterinary College, in London. "Technology has advanced to the stage where it is a matter of whether the owner can afford the treatment."

With a complicated major fracture costing up to £1,000 to repair, it is understandable that many pet owners think twice before deciding to go ahead with an operation. "I am quite prepared to admit that we are part of a leisure industry in a sense and the way in which people spend their money on their pets is not for me to judge," says Dr Peter Darke, the senior lecturer at Edinburgh University's veterinary clinical studies department. "The other side of the coin is that if you are not advancing and trying new techniques, you stagnate."

Growing public demand for new and better medical treatment for pets is also creating technological advance. "Members of the public look at television and see people having renal and heart transplants and want to know why they can't have them for their animals," says Dr Dick White, the lecturer in small animal soft tissue surgery at Cambridge University's veterinary school.

The cost of treatment is clearly an important factor. Even so, according to Bradley Viner, a veterinary surgeon and the information officer of the British Veterinary Association, "There are conditions that will not get better no matter what you spend on them — otherwise rich people wouldn't die." The bill for treatment is frequently based on the

What price a dog's life?

CHRIS THOMOND

Can replacement hips and plastic surgery be justified for pets?

Sally Brompton reports

Remarkable technological advances in animal surgery are causing an increasing moral dilemma for veterinary surgeons, who are being forced to decide between what they can and should do.

As medical techniques for the treatment of animals follow closely behind those used to deal with human illness, veterinary surgeons can now save and prolong their patients' lives in a way which was impossible even ten years ago.

Euthanasia, which was once the sole solution for many untreatable animal diseases, has become merely another option in the growing choice of available courses of action.

Animals can have pacemakers, artificial joints, plastic surgery, corneal grafting, chemotherapy, open-heart surgery and, theoretically, organ transplants. They can have their teeth crowned, artificial lenses implanted in their eyes and ultrasound scans for diagnostic purposes.

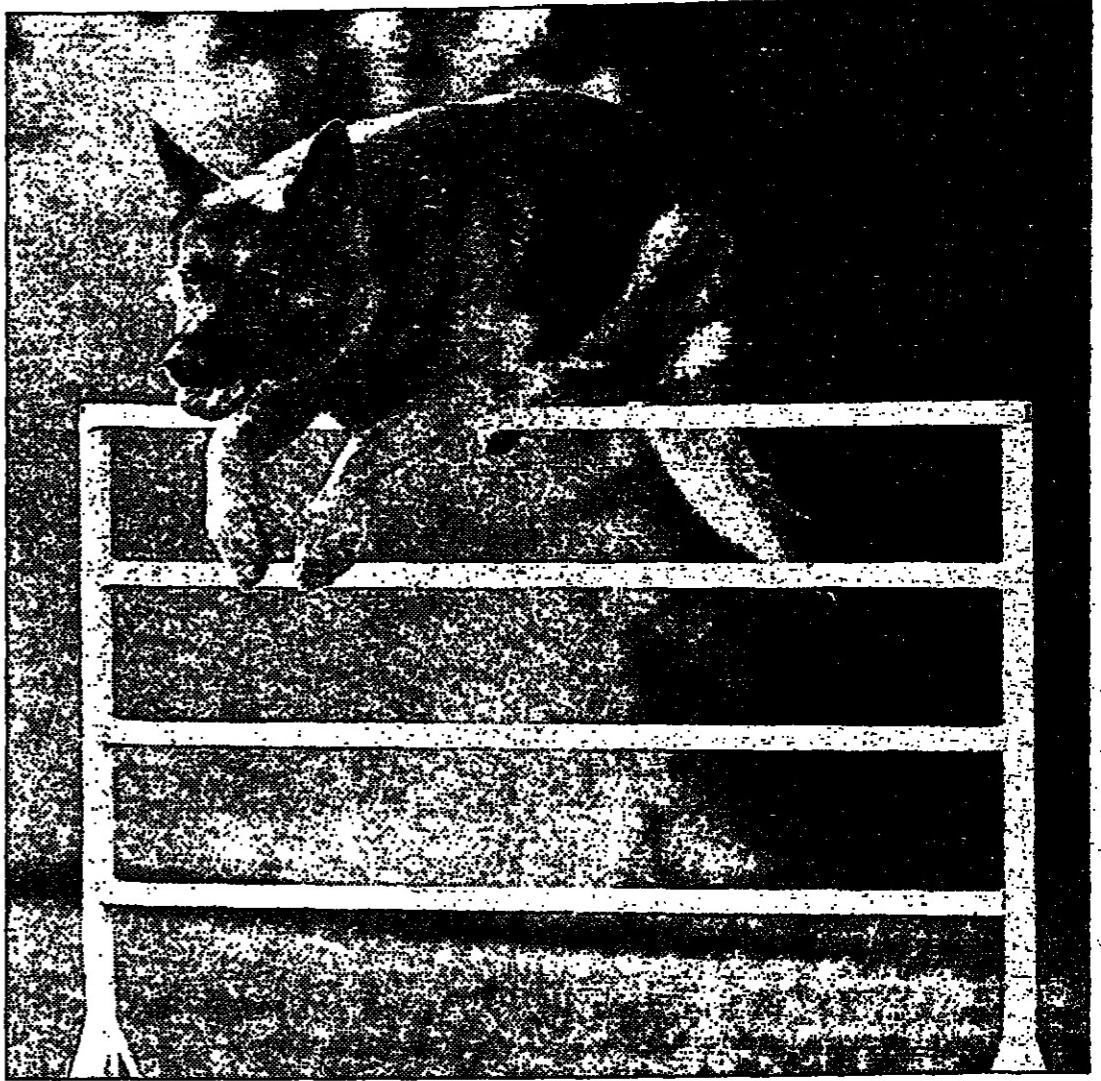
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Improving leaps and bounds: Seb, the police dog, after his operation to have artificial hip joints

value of the animal involved — surgery to a racehorse will cost far more than the same operation on a family pet. And the increased expectation of owners has resulted in a steep rise in cases of alleged medical negligence, with 700 claims expected this year, compared with 175 in 1980.

Mr Viner treats a variety of animal species at his practice in north London, including crocodiles, snakes, lizards, fish, hamsters and guinea pigs. He regularly carries out dental work on rabbits and recently amputated the leg of a gerbil which had been mangled in a wheel. "A much wider range of operations is being done in general practice," he says.

Mr Clayton Jones thinks it unlikely that anyone would carry out an operation for other than entirely justifiable reasons. "Obviously, there is interest if a new technique comes along, but I don't think there are people who would give treatment for the interest in doing it," he says.

Among the operations which most veterinary surgeons refuse to undertake on ethical grounds are cosmetic surgery — particularly those operations involving hereditary defects, and frequently including docking dogs' tails and declawing cats. Organ transplants are also rare because of the ethical problems involved in finding a donor animal.

As well as the high cost of modern medical technology, there is the additional factor of whether the treatment is in the best interests of the animal. Veterinary surgeons are confronted with the problem of whether the results justify the means. "There are people who will go to almost any lengths to save their pets' lives but then we run into the ethics of whether it is fair to maintain a dog on 25 per cent of its previous efficiency to keep its owner happy," Mr Clayton Jones says.

"The decision about whether or not to go to surgery is always entirely the client's," Dr White says. "But the overriding consideration has to be the welfare of the patient and not the whim of the client. The question is whether treatment is going to add to the animal's quality of life and nowhere is that more true than dealing with cancer patients. Unlike humans, it is a matter of the quality of life and not simply maintaining life."

There are, however, occasions when the veterinary surgeon is confronted with a situation where the owner's life is irrevocably entwined with that of the pet. "We get some heartbreaking cases with old ladies, or where a pet is the

family's only link with a child who has died," Dr White says. "The only rule is that you do your best — but the quality of life of the animal must still apply."

A police dog in Northamptonshire named Seb, a German shepherd, now aged three-and-a-half, was the first working dog in Britain to have artificial hip joints. He had operations on both his back hips. His handler, PC Brian Coe, aged 35, says that Seb "is now better than ever". Without the operation, Seb would have had to be put down because, as a working dog, he would not have been suitable as a household pet. Mr Clayton Jones and his team carried out the treatment without charge, but even the usual fee of £300 for each operation would have been less than the cost of buying and training a new police dog, which can be £10,000.

The moral question raised by the spending of so much skill, money and technology on animals is one with which most veterinary surgeons are familiar. "We are confusing two issues here," Dr White says. "The first is 'Is wealth fairly distributed?' The answer is that it is not. But that is a function of the politicians, not the veterinary profession.

"The other issue is: 'Should we be treating animals at all?' Since we maintain them in a very artificial environment for our own needs and pleasures, we have a responsibility to look after them. The answer is to do the best possible job you can."

On the trail of a killer

A couple's grief over the loss of a baby has led to a breakthrough by genetic researchers

Five years ago, Anita and Ken Macaulay celebrated the birth of their baby daughter, Jennifer. Their joy turned to grief when Jennifer was diagnosed as having spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).

SMA affects the nerve cells in the spine which pass messages from the brain to the body's muscles. Although children who suffer from a mild form of this crippling disease may survive into adulthood, those severely affected rarely reach their second birthday. Jennifer died when she was seven months old.

The Macaulays were told that the chances of a couple having a baby with SMA are "one in a million", as both parents had to be carriers of the affected gene.

Even so, the knowledge that there was a one in four chance that future children would suffer from the condition led Mrs Macaulay to find other parents for mutual support and to share information. This step had far-reaching consequences.

"At the time, I understood there were only three or four other families like us. So I wrote to all the baby magazines saying I wanted to start a support group," she says.

Now the Jennifer Trust for Spinal Muscular Atrophy has more than 400 members. Far from being rare, SMA was found to be, after cystic fibrosis, the most common genetic cause of infant death. About one in 60 people carries the gene. As a result, a research project was established, and in April this year scientists located the gene which causes SMA. This weekend the researchers who made the breakthrough will be addressing the trust's annual international conference at Stratford-upon-Avon.

Mrs Macaulay says: "Once you know where the gene is, you can test for it at six to seven weeks of pregnancy to predict whether a baby will have the disease. We also hope that the next stage will be in vitro testing, followed by pre-embryo implantation."

She adds: "We want another baby. We want to wait and see what happens in the light of current developments. At 33, I still have time."

LEE RODWELL

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It is Tidy

When it's good to learn the hard way

Starting college can be traumatic. For most students it means living away from home for the first time and organising their own budget and study time. John O'Leary, *The Times* higher education correspondent, offers some advice

Going to college for the first time is a milestone in the life of most students... and their parents. There will be new challenges, new friends and, most of all, a new way of life.

In spite of the growing number of older students and others who choose a course at their local institution, the majority of starters in higher education will be living away from home for the first time. Even those who have been to boarding school will find the freedom of life as a student a very different experience. The most confident "feather" is bound to feel some anxiety about such a transformation in lifestyle.

Universities, polytechnics and colleges are accustomed to dealing with the problems of adjustment facing their new charges. Depending on the size and type of institution, there will be a variety of bodies to help students settle in: reception committees and student unions; to tutors, hall warden or landladies; and, most importantly, the many others who are in the same boat. If they fail, there will be a network of health and welfare services to turn to, run by students and others by professionals.

There is nothing much anyone can do to ward off homesickness, apart from keeping in regular contact with family and friends.

but a little planning in accommodation, finance and even study methods can save a lot of heartache later.

In particular, it is essential to sort out accommodation as soon as possible. The housing position at the start of the academic year has been worsening in recent years as student numbers have outpaced facilities, and large numbers of students have been forced to live temporarily in holiday camps or campus caravans.

This autumn all the indications

are that there will be many more

students in the universities — perhaps an extra 20,000 — and the polytechnics and colleges are

likely to increase their intake again.

Most institutions give

priority to first-year students, but

few have enough accommodation

to go round. An early visit to the

accommodation office, and, if

necessary, other agencies are ad-

visable where there is no guarantee of

a place.

Self-catering flats are the current

favourite among students, and the

social life associated with halls of

residence is usually thought to

offer a big advantage for new

arrivals. Digs are even making

something of a comeback and may

be the best option for those who

think they will miss a family

atmosphere. In some towns and

cities, however, it will be a matter

of taking the best you can find and

looking out for a better move later

in the year.

Personal finance is another

obvious area for some pre-plan-

ning. It is worth shopping around

for the best banking deal and no

student should start a course

without a chat with a bank

manager. Credit is widely avail-

able to students and, with their

sources of income strictly limited,

can cause difficulties if it is not

handled sensibly. Financial wor-

ries can lead to academic failure

and it is all too easy to end up on a

credit blacklist that can mean

serious trouble in later life.

This is not to say that

students should avoid

overdrafts. Few manage

without one at some stage

in their campus career. That time

may even arrive straight away if

you are the victim of one of the

regular delays in the administra-

tion of student grants. The Survey

education department has already

given warning that it has a backlog

of 12,000 grant applications and

has appealed to students not to

telephone if they have not been

notified yet. It is likely to be the

first of several such warnings.

Students should not panic, but

make arrangements with their

parents where possible or try a

bank or building society.

Study skills are also worth

thinking about before a course



Coping with a new lifestyle: Joanne Russell (left) talks to Sue Mead, a student counsellor at King's College, Surrey Street, London

starts. Usually there will be no need for more than the broadest reading on your chosen subject. There will be plenty of time to get to grips with content later, but it is easy to fall behind by failing to adapt to the freedom offered by further and higher education. Independent study, the use of libraries, disciplined reading and time management are important skills that may not have been

required at school. Arts and social science students are likely to have more free time than they are used to, while science and engineering students may be taxed by an unfamiliar pressure of work.

Other subjects on which parents or friends may want to offer advice are more delicate. Student life is not all sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll, but it would be naive to pretend that it will be a

sheltered existence. Many families will have tackled contraception, drugs and alcohol well before this, but it may be too late if it is left beyond the start of college.

Usually, however, the survival skills required are simply those dictated by a life away from home: basic things such as simple cooking, operating a washing machine and ironing. A checklist for going away to college might include a

Facing change

Help and advice from many sources are readily available for students with academic or personal problems

FRESHER BLUES is a well-known phenomenon. Not every student will find life in higher education difficult and will sail through with ease, but most experience some problems settling down, however slight. Being forewarned may make freshers feel less anxious when it happens, and it helps to know that others are in the same boat. Even those students who appear mature and confident may be feeling nervous.

Leaving home, school and friends to begin a new life is the biggest transition many people have had to make since starting secondary school. They may not have formed any new friendships for some time and even those who think they are particularly independent can be homesick. The first evening in digs or hall can be lonely, but as soon as lectures begin and clubs and societies hold their first meetings, opportunities arise to meet people and make friends.

Another problem often encountered in the first term is money and how to manage it. Every student, whatever the size of their grant or allowance, needs to be able to budget properly. Apart from advice from parents, low-cost student survival guides, available in most book shops, would be a great help. The main change for students is methods of study. Tutorials, with their requirement for student participation, and large formal lectures can come as a shock, although this varies according to the teaching methods students are accustomed to.

The new freedoms and the lack of compulsory lectures can go to students' heads

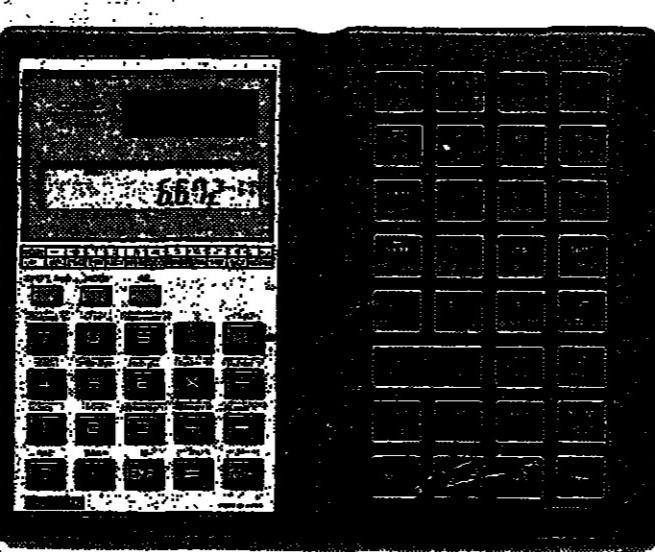
Alex Coren, of King's College, London, estimates that almost half of new students

will have study-related difficulties half-way through the first term.

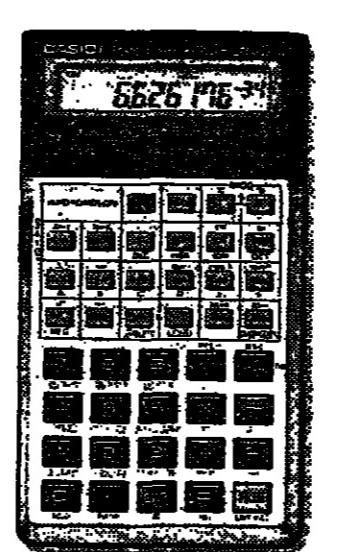
He says: "It may be that the impetus of A-level work has worn off, the difference in the amount of teacher attention received at school and university, or lack of immediate motivation. The goal of getting here has been achieved and the next one, getting a degree, seems a long way off."

Again, there are solutions. Students often get help first from informal networks. Friends can assist by discussing work and comparing notes taken during lectures, which is often an unfamiliar process. There are more formal methods of assistance available. It is quite common for institutions to hold study skills sessions for those with difficulties in adjusting to college methods. These are widely advertised, or they are mentioned by a tutor.

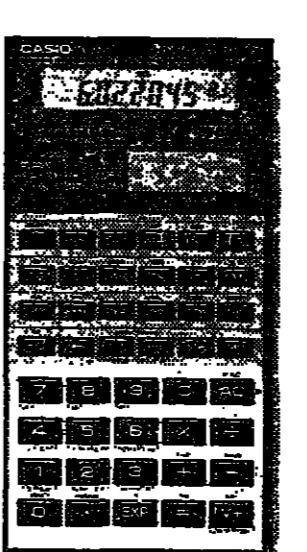
Some people go off the rails at the beginning. The unaccustomed freedom and the week containing few compulsory lectures can go to students' heads. However, it becomes a problem only if it goes on too long. One of the most valuable experiences in higher education is learning how to



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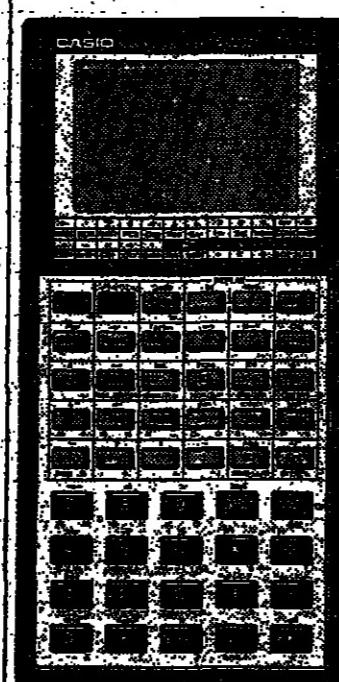
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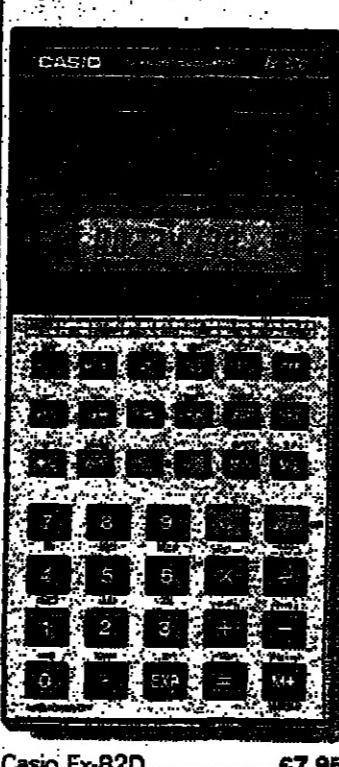
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GOING TO COLLEGE/2



Joining up: most student organisations publicise themselves on campus noticeboards

Academia aside

Students are given a wide range of activities to join when they start college, all at modest cost. Most universities have at least 100 student associations, while the University of Leicester has 150, including 40 sporting groups.

All establishments have something to suit everybody, from music and drama to community service, environmental action, politics, fencing and Morris dancing. Representatives of all the groups will be out in force at the fresher's fair, eager to sign up various recruits.

Some advice from an old hand is that college societies are pretty intensive and that it pays, therefore, not to join too many at first. "Don't rush," one second-year student says. "Join one or two and think about others. They won't turn you away if you want to join in a few weeks."

As well as being selective in the number of clubs you join, it pays to choose an interesting balance. This can reap dividends later. Just as students filled in a list of extra curricula

activities on their UCCA and PCAS forms, so might they be able to impress prospective employers with the range of activities they have undertaken.

Anything done outside academic working time proves, at the least, that a student has learnt how to balance and manage time, assess priorities and mix with other people.

Careers advisers' nightmares are the final-year students who have worked hard for a first-class honours degree, but gained nothing else along the way.

Most employers of graduates are interested in personal

ability — demonstrated by running, as opposed to being involved in, any kind of society.

Some can be of obvious value, such as the voluntary work undertaken by anyone hoping to enter a caring profession, and environmental groups for those hoping to work in conservation. It is not always appreciated that many journalists and broadcasters come from the ranks of those who have helped run the campus magazine and radio.

However, student life is not meant to be entirely geared to getting a good job. There must be time for play as well. Why not go for a balance? Something potentially "useful", some previous hobbies continued and developed, and some new and some for pure fun?

A final point is that most students' unions give grants to clubs and societies, and are usually willing to support new activities. If a club does not exist there is no reason why a first-year student cannot start one.

BERYL DIXON

Help from industry

dent, in some cases, applies to higher education institutions

approved by the sponsor, works for the company during vacations and is expected to apply for a job on graduation.

Most sponsorships go to students reading vocational subjects, such as engineering. There is less interest in the arts and social sciences.

The employer pays the agreed amount, provides training during any sandwich placements, and often, holiday employment. The stu-

year, it can be worth consulting the publications listed below with a view to sponsorship during the rest of course.

Many sponsorships, particularly those in retailing, finance and business, are not advertised, but are linked to institutions. Bournemouth Polytechnic, for example, has degree places available this year in financial services linked to sponsorship by insurance and financial consultancy companies.

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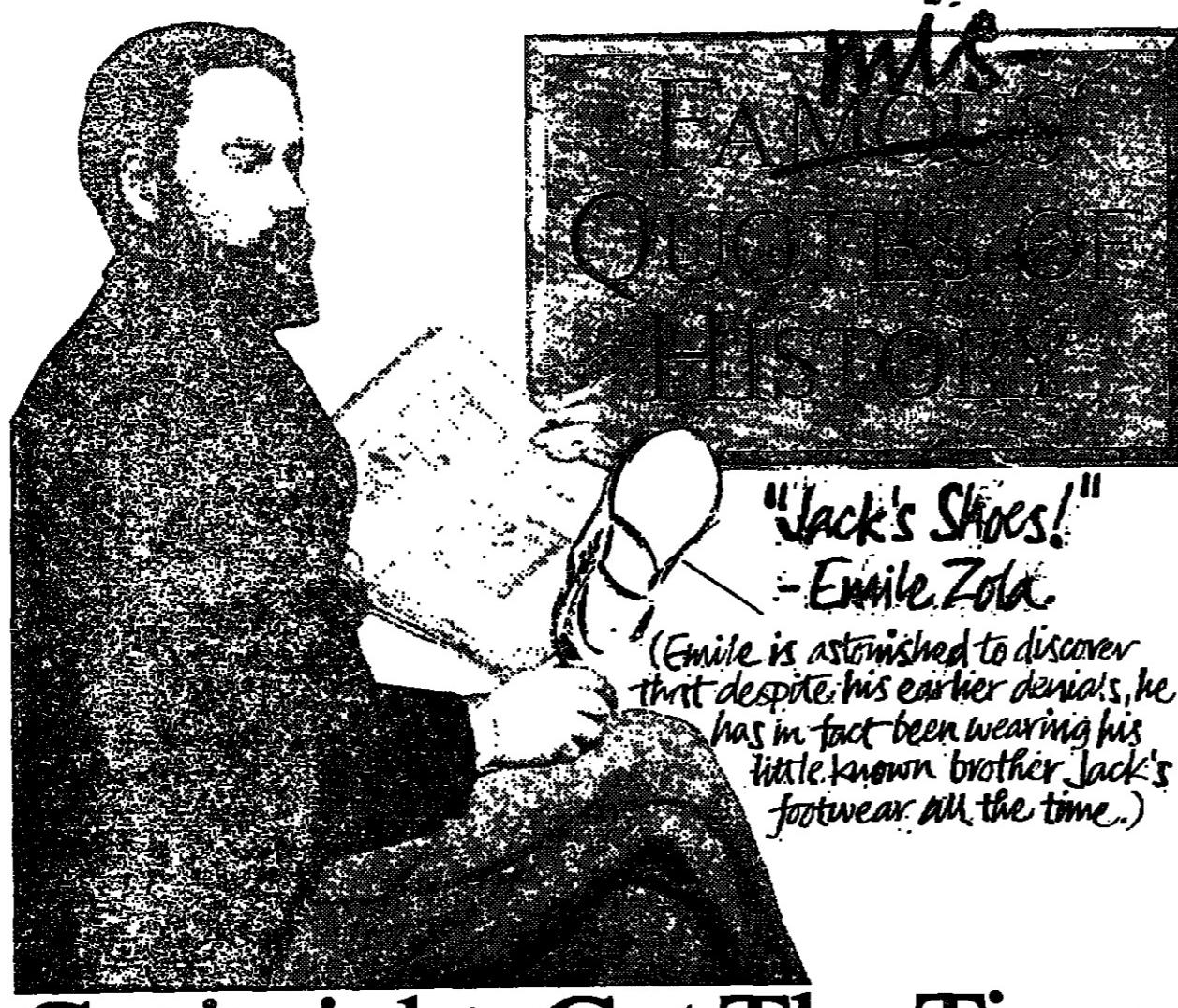
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Institutions in the north are becoming more popular as accommodation costs become a determining factor in choosing where to study. Beryl Dixon writes

Placing a ceiling on student rents

The rising cost of accommodation means that students are having to take rents into consideration when choosing where to study. Tim Walker, of the National Union of Students, says: "Students are going to have to become more financially wary."

Applications to institutions in towns regarded as low cost rose dramatically this year, with most northern universities and colleges receiving particularly high numbers. A survey by Leeds Polytechnic published in June showed that Leeds had a 13 per cent increase, while further north, applications to Teesside increased by 69 per cent.

According to Mr Walker, the differentials will widen as students begin to feel the effects of two pieces of government legislation. Until this year students were entitled to housing benefit. This meant that those renting private accommodation in London, where average prices for 1990-91 are expected to be between £50 and £60 weekly, were cushioned by being able to claim a rebate on rents of more than £29.

This is the first full year to see the effects of the 1988 Housing Act on the deregulation of rents. Students will now be in competition with other tenants for accommodation, the price of which may well increase.

Some towns are more expensive than others. London is, naturally, and grants are slightly higher as a result. However, college accommodation officers in southern England and Wales, where costs have also risen, feel aggrieved that their students do not receive similarly weighted grants.

There are surprising pockets where regional differences do not

apply. It is not possible to draw a line, say, from the Severn to the Wash, and assume that all areas north or south of that are equally expensive. In Brighton, students pay an average of £40 per week for private rented accommodation exclusive of bills; in the southwest outskirts of London, where there are three large colleges, £15; in Bournemouth, £35 upwards; in Bristol, £30-£35; but in Southampton, £28.

"We dread being rated a 'southern university,'" Marion Lowe, of Southampton, says. "We can find plenty of reasonably priced places

'Some parents who have the means are buying properties as an investment and as somewhere for a student son or daughter to live'

and our poll tax, something else students must take into account, is low."

In Birmingham and Nottingham private-sector rents are £25-£30 and £26 respectively, while Edinburgh students can expect to pay £30 and Manchester university suggests that students should aim for £28.

Students living in private accommodation are at the mercy of local prices. Those living in a hall of residence will find that charges there also vary considerably, and this time geography is

not the deciding factor. Students with a single room in hall with meals provided can find themselves paying weekly charges of £36.30 at University College London, £33.80 in Bristol, £41.30 in Edinburgh, £45.44 in Portsmouth, £49.16 in Nottingham, and £47.50 in Manchester. Southampton charges £42.85 and the West London Institute is able to charge only £36.25, although with fewer meals included.

Prices largely depend on how much accommodation the institution was able to buy before property prices increased, or by how much it is able to subsidise costs. Most students want to live in hall in the first year, and parents are usually happier if they do so, knowing that food is provided, fuel bills are included and the rooms are generally of a good standard. If possible, it does make sense to opt for a hall place. It makes the transition from leaving home easier and is a good place to make friends.

Most universities and colleges guarantee hall places to all first-year students. Polytechnics, which with one or two exceptions are not able to house all first years, give them priority.

Some students do not wish to live in hall at all: many want to move out in the second year when they have found their feet and made friends with whom they would like to share a flat or house.

There is an alternative to the private rental sector in that a lot of institutions now own self-catering accommodation, either purpose-built or converted, which is let to students at much lower rents than are asked for privately. These can be ideal, but are often at a premium. Rents vary around Britain, starting at £18.70 (Leeds),



Shopping around: the cost of living in halls varies from institution to institution, often depending on how many rooms are available

with an average of £20-25, and are usually about two-thirds of the cost of private flats.

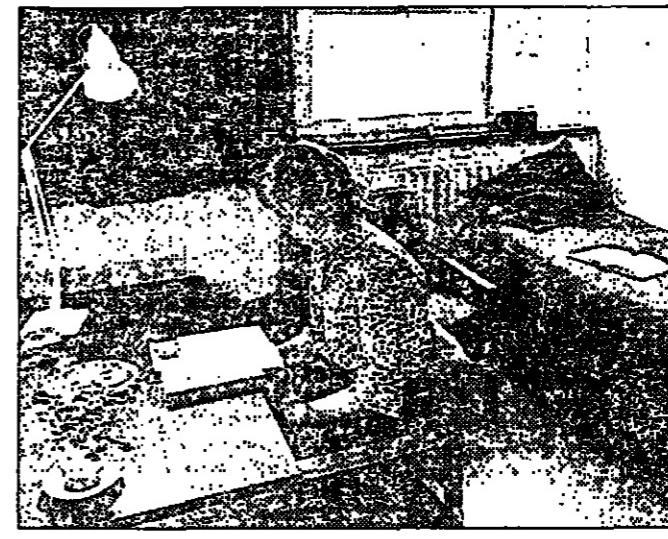
Costs need to be compared carefully, just as in the private sector. Some include heat and fuel; some charge rent in term time only while others expect a vacation retainer.

Two alternatives remain. The first is bed and breakfast accommodation or bed, breakfast and evening meal – usually with a private family; sometimes, particularly in holiday resorts, small guest houses are glad to take students out of season.

In some towns where students cannot be guaranteed more than one year in college-owned accommodation, parents with the means are buying properties as an investment and as somewhere for a

student son or daughter to live, with friends as tenants. This solution is not without everyone's reach and local housing prices fluctuate. However, students are notoriously unconcerned about living in smart areas, so that even in an expensive town, such as Bristol, a three-bedroomed house three miles from the university can be bought for £35,000.

The going rate for a house in a "typical student area" suitable for three or four students to share in Manchester and Leicester is about £30,000; in Nottingham or Southampton £47-50,000; and in Brighton £65,000 upwards. Parents of Hull students could get a bargain. The university accommodation office says "very few do this, but a five-roomed house can be got for £15-20,000".



Learning to juggle the ever-tightening budget

The loss of housing benefit and the downgrading of grants are forcing students to live even more frugally than before

Student finance, which once meant the straightforward, if difficult, matter of making ends meet on a student grant, has become a complex and daunting subject in the past few years.

Only a hermit could have failed to be aware of the big change taking place this year: the introduction of student loans. However, behind that is the loss of housing benefit and some other welfare entitlements, balanced only slightly by a plethora of offers from the banks and building societies. Add in the community charge and the result can be confusion and depression.

The only simple conclusion is that a student will have to live a frugal life to make ends meet. The education department has long since given up pretending that even the maximum student grant is sufficient to cover living expenses for the entire year.

This year's full grant is worth £2,265 for those living away from home and outside London, £2,845 in the capital and £1,795 for home-based students. Local authorities may pay other than married students and people assessed independently of their parents, whose home is within daily travelling distance of their place of study.

Many students will not qualify for a grant at all, either because they are on courses that are not "designated" or because their parents earn too much. But all degrees, national diplomas from the Business and Technical Education Council, initial teacher training courses and some other diplomas do attract mandatory awards, as well as carrying an entitlement to one of the new loans.

Students on other courses may be lucky enough to get a discretionary award from their local education authority, but these have been in short supply in recent years. They may take into account examination results and carry the requirement that the recipient studies locally if a suitable course is available.

Most people starting a course in the coming term should know by now if they are eligible for a mandatory grant and how much they are to receive. Some education authorities are still dealing with a backlog of applications and there are always delays, giving the unlucky victims an early experience of a financial crisis. However, the delays should be relatively short-lived and easily dealt with, although that will be little immediate consolation to those who have not been able to make standby arrangements with parents or banks.

Banks and building societies compete fiercely for student accounts, not because they are likely to have any

money during their studies, but because they are often high earners in later life. Their withdrawal from the government's student loans scheme illustrates this competition; all the main banks pulled out as soon as Lloyds did for fear of losing potential customers.

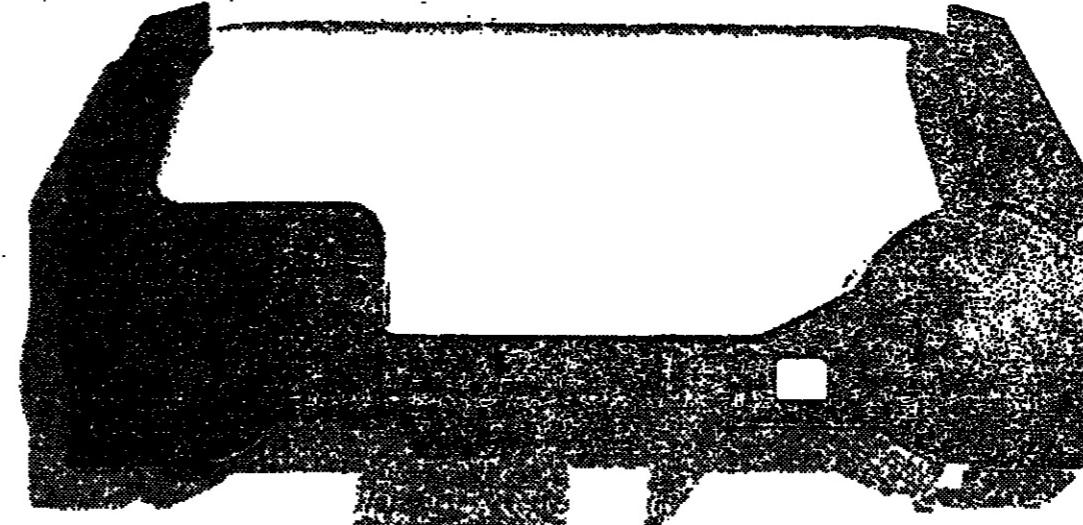
As a result, students now have access to a variety of loans at rates that are the envy of other borrowers, although still not quite the same as grants. Five of the eight leading banks — Lloyds, Midland, NatWest, TSB and the Royal Bank of Scotland — are offering interest-free overdrafts of up to £300, bearing the index-linked rates of the government scheme.

Rpayment rates in the government scheme will be set annually at the official rate of inflation for the previous year. Graduates will have signed a direct debiting mandate when they took out the loan and will begin paying back in the April after completing a course. Repayments will be deferred only if a graduate's gross salary falls below a set figure, which this year would have stood at £965 per month.

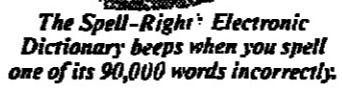
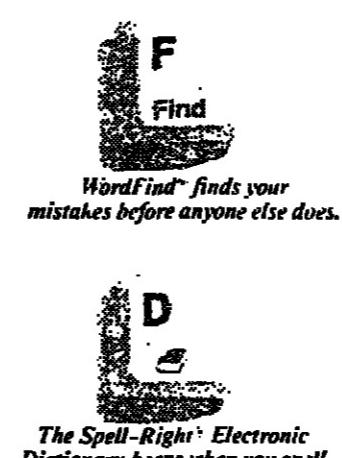
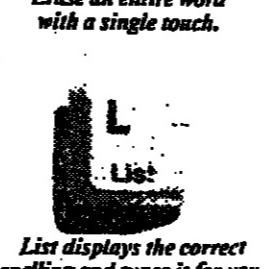
Students will be able to borrow up to £460 a year in London and £420 elsewhere in Britain, with lower maxima for those living at home and for final-year students, who will be offered between £90 and £120 less to allow for the absence of a summer vacation. Applicants will need a bank or building society account because payments will be made by electronic transfer, and will have their eligibility certified by the college. Once all the forms have been completed, the Student Loans Company expects to produce the money, in a lump sum or in up to three instalments, within three weeks.

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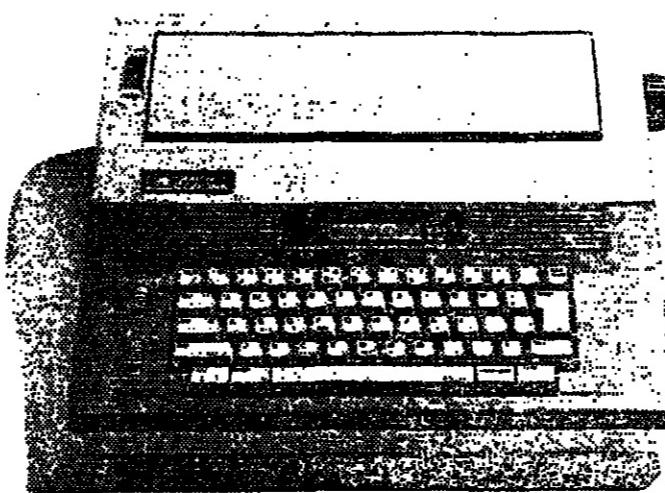
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On the scruff side of intelligence

INSIDE a duff cover and behind the so-so title lurks a superior thriller and another innings for Harry Seddall. Seddall belongs to a distinguished line of maverick intelligence officers, a bit of Hannay, a bit of Bond, a bit of Harry Palmer; but mostly he is his own scruffy man. Here he is embroiled in a Whitehall shake-up and a plot to discredit him: an impressive caravan of pursuers and pursued – including a Nazi war criminal and First XI hit-men – descend on Seddall's West Country home for a final shoot-out. Earlier committee in-fighting and drop-shot dialogue make for sophisticated prevarication. Mayo writes in praise of older women, provides a strong supporting cast (down to rude waiters), and shakes up stale formulas – violence with a double twist is a specialty. As sardonic as early Fleming, and better written. *Alpha minus*.

With *Rascal Money* (*Headline*, £12.95, paperback, £7.99) Joseph R. Garber offers a seemingly hard-headed business thriller, which is in fact soft-centred. Characters of intimidating appearance turn out to be, like their office equipment, user-friendly; the good guys, anyway; they being the executives of PegaSys Inc., huge computer company threatened with takeover by a ramshackle outfit run by the delightfully incompetent Shawby, fronting for a menacing Japanese conglomerate. Beneath a seductive high-tech gloss, lurks that old Sax Rohmer xenophobia. This much one character has at least the grace to admit: "Yeah. Fu Manchu. Fiendish archimurders. Sinister masterminds. A nefarious international conspiracy to keep me from going home to my Thanksgiving dinner." As for the PegaSys crew, are not so many acceptable faces of capitalism too much of a good thing? Pluses include instructive lessons on business dealings. More a matter of taste is the hyper writing that fingers the author for a jogger, a prose fitness freak, liable to fatigue sedentary readers. *Beta plus*.

Hijack a tanker with arms bound for Iran, stir in reprisal terrorist kidnappings and much political chicanery, then drop a reliable ex-SAS major turned sec-

THRILLERS

Chris Petit

CRY HAVOC
By J. K. Mayo
Collins Harvill, £12.95

urity agent in the middle to clear up. Terence Strong belongs to the action-man school of writing, backed up by hands-on research, here into the splintered world of Middle East extremist factions and in particular the Sons of Heaven (*Hodder & Stoughton*, £13.95), secret sword of Islam. Strong earns marks for a willingness to take on difficult homework – the dense subject of Islamic fanaticism – avoided by most thriller writers. But execution is padded sub-Fleming. *Beta minus*.

Challenge by Warwick Collins (*Pan*, £12.95) culminates with the Soviets racing the US for the America's Cup in the year 2000, a political duel and a routine challenge that lets the author indulge his manifest obsession for sailing. While Warwick Collins doesn't manage to do for boats what Walter Tevis did for chess in *The Queen's Gambit* and make it compulsive to the uninitiated, his first half – a biography of the early sailing days of the US team leader – offers agreeably readable rites-of-passage stuff – virginities lost, character-building rivalries bonding into lifelong friendships, fights picked, and much briny tang. Deck-shoe wearers probably will enjoy the technical detail. *Beta*.

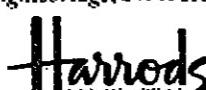
Access to the files of a Swiss bank gains Rollo Naisby a nice little earner in *Eminent Persons* by Wilfred Greatorex (*Weidenfeld & Nicolson*, £13). Various public figures with financial skeletons are persuaded to invest \$2 million each in Naisby's Cayman Island stash. Neatly set up thus, neither author nor the feckless Naisby seem sure what to do. Officials and heavies dispatched to get up the plot are too faceless to register. Coppers come in shades of grey, toughs dispensing routine violence remain shadowy, and Naisby's charm fails to increase at the rate of his bank account. *Beta plus*.

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Victoria Glendinning
on the talk, and talk, of our New York Jewish Narcissus

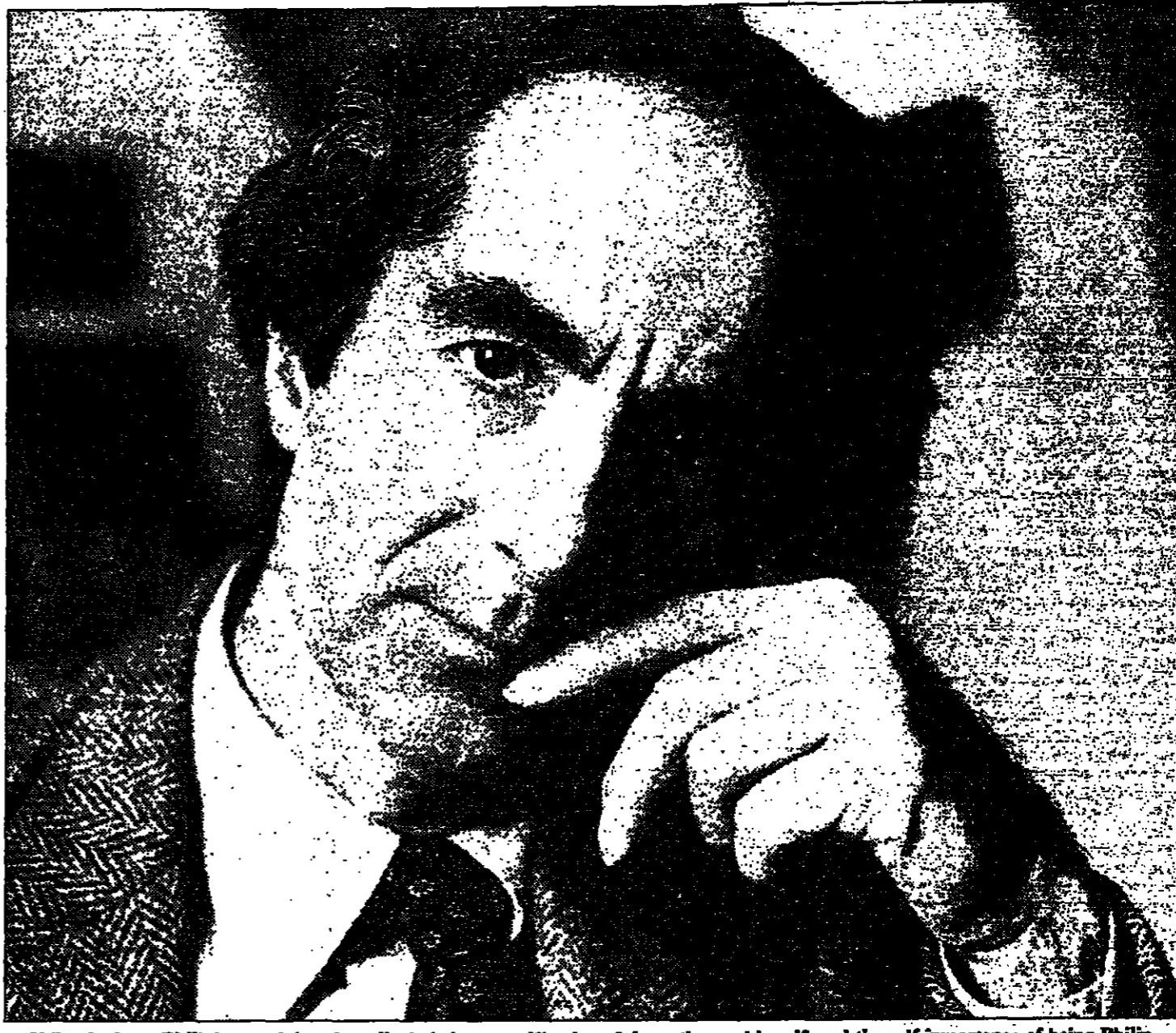
This book will be of interest to anyone who is interested in Philip Roth, and that's a lot of people, if only because *Portnoy's Complaint* changed the face (though the face wasn't the part of the body it featured) of the Jewish comic novel, and administered the authentic electric shock of the new. But Philip Roth can hardly be of greater interest to any of his readers than he is to himself.

Americans are much more tender towards the ego than we are. The British tend to see the ego as something that must be held in check for the soul's good and out of consideration for others; and a swollen ego is a case for treatment. Americans tend to nurture the ego as if it were each man's entry for a giant leek competition. Philip Roth has a prize-winning leek, even when it's passed off as some other leek, i.e. his alter ego.

The root idea in this book, which is one that runs through everything Roth has written recently, is the ambiguous relationship between his fiction and the raw experience out of which it is made. *Deception* is written entirely in dialogue. This poses the problem of knowing who is saying what, since there is never a "he said" or a "she said", and in some sections you get confused and have to work backwards and forwards muttering "him – her – him – her –" till you reach a clue.

Since the male speaker is American (and a Jewish novelist, called Philip), and the main female speaker is English, this difficulty does not augur well for Philip Roth's grasp of idiom. Philip's English mistress uses the phrase "a walk-up flat" to describe his work-place in Notting Hill. Yet Philip in the novel describes himself as a listener, or rather, "I'm an écoutier – an audiophile. I'm a talk fetishist."

The real deception of the novel is that it's about anyone other than Philip. He likes the woman to talk about him, and her unsatisfactory marriage, and the way she feels about their affair. There is some four-letter-word talk to convey that talking is not all they do. Sometimes they play "reality shift", and she pretends to be a stranger examining him about the nasty attitudes to women he displays in his novels. He com-



Philip Roth, on Philip's complaint, the solipsistic impersonification of the author as himself, and the self-importance of being Philip

plains to her about his "cultural displacement" in England, and the nasty attitudes of the English to Jews and Americans – with a sharp and funny bit about the table-talk of literary left-wingers at smart dinner-parties. Somewhere in here there is a potentially good novel about what Philip calls "cultural displacement", but it can't get out into the open, because he never leaves the Notting Hill room.

The English lady is not his only visitor. There is a Polish one, and a Czech one, and since we can't know who on earth they are unless they tell us, they make stilted statements like, "I am Czechoslovakian girl, graduate of Russian

DECEPTION
By Philip Roth
Cape, £12.95

the puppets' strings, is whole. The dialogues we are reading are their conversations transcribed into his notebook. Mostly they are trite, which is like real life, but not compelling enough for fiction.

There is also an old flame in America to whom Philip talks on the telephone. She has cancer. Maybe that's because she has already figured in his fiction. All his women go straight into his novels and all are damaged. The English lady has a lump on her cervix, and goes to group therapy. The Czech has had a major breakdown. Only Philip, pulling

Knowing exactly who's who may be fun for his readers, she says, "but what about me?" He insists that it's all just imagination, a ventriloquist's trick, and she has no right to censor him. He won't even change the name Philip: "It's an impersonation of myself."

The overall implication is that the most interesting thing about a book is its writer. There's a most unusual note on the copyright page of *Deception*: "Philip Roth asserts his right to be identified as the author of his work." No problem: No one else but he could have written it (except, maybe, a vengeful woman with a talent for parody), and that in itself is a kind of triumph.

Loves and hates under apartheid

Anne Barnes

MY SON'S STORY



By Nadine Gordimer
Bloomsbury, £13.95

NECESSARY RITES

By Janice Elliott
Hodder & Stoughton, £11.95

DOCTOR DE MARR

By Paul Theroux
Hutchinson, £6.99

family living in a world where everything is determined by the political struggle, and the subterfuges required play strange tricks with frankness and falsity, making them often change places. She is too wise to be the centre and protector of a family now split apart by the pursuit of an ideal, which also holds them together. Gordimer has a long and deep understanding of the cross-pattern of public emotion and private feeling in South Africa. She displays, with great gentleness, the network of conflicting demands on this one

and neighbours just like themselves. The trouble is that it is Christmas, that terrible measuring time, when past tragedies and former happiness rise up to rebuke one in almost equal proportions, throwing intolerable strain on the robustness of this year's goodwill. Moira, dull even in her most reflective moments, does what she can. She cooks wholesome meals, gets in the Christmas decorations, invites a suicidal teenager to share the festivities, and ties a red ribbon to the dog's collar. Dan worries about his work, and lusts after his doctor's receptionist. Why are these people so paralysingly dull, and why haven't they changed in the last 30 years? Perhaps it is because this sort of middle-class angst, based as it is on a point between self-congratulation and guilt, is simply now a literary convention which can no longer be developed, only deployed. Just occasionally Moira's sense of panic does strike true, but it is left to her son to provide some point of reality as he stumbles around trying to make sense of his parents' world.

Perhaps all parents are baffled by their children. In Doctor De Marr, Paul Theroux presents a detailed picture of identical twins, whose lives have been blighted by a father who brought them up to act out a perpetual freak show. Always dressed exactly alike, haircuts identical, every possession and experience shared, they have come to fear and loathe each other. As adults they live apart and out of communication, until

one day George arrives on Gerald's doorstep demanding to be let in. From then on Gerald's quiet life is swallowed up by George's more dangerous lifestyle. On one level, Theroux is telling a simple story of mistaken identity with a violent outcome. On another, he is making a sophisticated and lucid comment on the way an individual personality is made up from reflections of other people's lives and behaviour. Gerald is disturbed by the ease with which he steps into the life of the brother he hates. In this very short novel Theroux has placed every word to maximum effect. He can make even the calmest of moments seem violent.

Saturday Review

Victorian best-seller

Peter Ackroyd reviews the biography of Mrs Humphry Ward, whose novels outsold Dickens, Wodehouse, Moorhouse

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CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

Flights of fact and fantasy

David Robinson reviews the second world war drama *Memphis Belle, Waiting for the Light, Stella and Why Me?*

At first sight it might seem quixotic in 1990 to make a film about the crew of a second world war bombing mission. Will the very young audience that dominates the cinema today be interested in the war memories of their grandparents?

Yet David Putman, the producer of *Memphis Belle* (PG, on general release nationwide), has perhaps rightly anticipated that the film may respond to a spiritual need in our period of global anxiety and looming war. He presents visual memories of a time when entire populations united to combat evil.

The film is inspired by a feature length documentary, *The Memphis Belle*, made in 1943 by William Wyler, who flew with the American Eighth Air Force in England. Co-produced by Wyler's daughter, Catherine, the film recreates the final mission of the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress. The first concern of the film has been to recreate the period, and the experience of flying in those pre-electronic days.

Five B-17s known to be in service 55 years after the type was first introduced were recruited for the film, together with three German Messerschmitt fighters and eight American Mustangs. These veterans perform graciously, vividly conveying the high tech of flying half-a-century ago. The only disappointments are some obvious model shots which stay on screen long enough to damage the illusion that is elsewhere so well built up.

The crew of a Flying Fortress consists of ten men. The point of the film is to show how young they were — not heroes, but boys just out of school. To sustain interest in an entire group is always hard. The young actors are deft and charming, but Monte Merrick's script gives none of them the chance to sketch his character in more than two dimensions.

All Quiet on the Western Front, a similar but far greater war film to which this bears some resemblance, had two advantages: the action was spread over months (here it is a night and a day), and the story focused on one central character. Merrick's task, in attempting to portray ten characters could have been easier if he had placed one of them in the foreground.

Directed confidently by Michael Caton-Jones (see interview, right), the film evokes the era



Recreating the missions of the Flying Fortress: Rascal (Sean Astin) and Danny (Eric Stoltz) in Michael Caton-Jones's *Memphis Belle*

admirably through the use of period film clichés. The most touching passages include most notably an interlude in which grainy old actuality film of bombing raids is overlaid with the sounds of the loved ones of dead airmen. The film, moreover, takes a great chance — which comes off — in a scene where a young airman (Eric Stoltz) stands on the airfield and recites a poem which he claims as his own. He is lying, and the scene has the force it has because the poet is W. B. Yeats:

"I know that I shall meet my fate
Somewhere among the clouds above..."

Waiting for the Light (PG, Cannon Tottenham Court Road) is a different view, comic this time, of the way communities react in times of crisis. This time we are in 1962, with middle America in jitter over the Cuban missile affair and digging fall-out shelters.

The English writer-director Christopher Monger sets his story in a small town in the Pacific north west, where single-mother Terri Garr has inherited a rundown diner. She is accompanied by her two characteristic children and her delinquent Aunt Zena, a retired circus magician. Zena, between devouring scandalous tabloids, delights the children with her own magical mischief.

In the Thirties tradition of small-town comedy, the film relates how Zena and her subverted young relatives use fireworks to convince the locality that miracles are happening in the garden of their next-door neighbour, the town grouch. People oppressed by the fear of nuclear war rush headlong into the shelter of religion and superstition. It is a pleasant fantasy, with a jolly performance by Shirley MacLaine, who seems now committed to playing such over-the-top eccentricities.

The Goldwyn family have shown great loyalty to Olive Higgins Prouty's tear-jerking novel of mother love, *Siesta Dallas*. The first time Sam Goldwyn made it was as a silent film in 1925; the next version by Henry King boasted a great performance by Belle Bennett and Douglas Fairbanks Jr., and the third production, yet again by Goldwyn, featured Barbara Stanwyck.

Now Sam Goldwyn Jr. has dug it out again as a vehicle for Bette Midler. The abbreviation of the title to *Stella* (15, Odeon Haymarket) reflects a token modernisation. In the original the heroine married above her station; now, in deference to contemporary mores while still staying out of her social class, she stays an unmarried mother.

Even allowing for the American obsession with class, the story has grown no less mawkish and improbable in the half-century since

it last surfaced, and credibility is constantly strained by Bette Midler's chameleon performance, as she switches from sacrificing mother to grotesque haridan.

Previous versions were made in more innocent times, and were saved by the intensity of their stars and the sensitivity of two great directors, *Stella*, directed with a very made-for-TV feel by John Erman, has no such saving graces.

As a dramatic actor (*Greystoke*, *Subway*, *Highlander*) Christopher Lambert has seemed progressively more inanimate. But *Why Me?* (15, Cannons Haymarket, Oxford Street) reveals his pleasant vitality as a comedian.

The film — directed by Gen Quintano — has not much else to offer. Harmless, if witless, it is conventional caper comedy, with Turkish patriots, Armenian terrorists, the CIA, federal police and the underworld all in frenzied pursuit of a stolen jewel. In his early twenties, Caton-Jones badgered out-of-work actor

ALWAYS (C/C, PG) Steven Spielberg's plump, charming, but ultimately pointless remake of the wartime fantasy *A Guy Named Joe*, with Richard Dreyfuss in Spencer Tracy's old role as the dead pilot returning to lend a hand. 1990.

THE COMANCHEROS (CBS/Fox, PG) John Wayne as Jake Cutler, the Texas Ranger who always gets his man, rounding up the renegades selling Comanches guns and booze. A breezy, brawling kind of Western — and the last film of its notable director, Michael Curtiz. 1961.

SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES (CBS/Fox, U) Forget the sordid plot — least instead on the effervescent cast (Betty Grable, Carmen Miranda), the lush Technicolor, and the spectacle of wartime escapism running riot. 1942.

CINEMA: CRITICS' CHOICE: VIDEO

A weekly selection of films recently released on video. The year refers to the date of first release, or for television films, of first broadcast.

THE FABULOUS FLEISCHER FOLIO

(Legend, U) Two volumes of vintage cartoons from the creators of *Betty Boop*, *Popeye*, and *The Cat in the Hat*.

FOOLS OF FORTUNE

(Palme, 15) Fragmentary, tiresome and treatment of Willem Trevor's novel about an Irish family in the Twenties; destroyed by the political troubles. With Ian Glen, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio and Julie Christie. 1990.

GLORY

(RCA/Columbia, 15) Compelling salute to the black soldiers who fought for the Union cause in the American Civil War. 1987.

with Matthew Broderick as a callow colonel and Denzel Washington as a runaway slave under his command. Directed by Edward Zwick. 1990.

KID GALAHAD

(Warner, PG) Lively boxing melodrama, with Edward G. Robinson as the ruthless promoter turning a sapid bethop (Wayne Morris) into a prize fighter. The girlfriend dodging the punches is Bette Davis. Director: Michael Curtiz. 1937.

TIN MEN

(Buena Vista, 15) Bright, inventive comedy-drama from writer-director Barry Levinson, with Richard Dreyfuss and Danny DeVito as warring home improvement salesmen. One stick, one slovenly. 1987.

O'Toole (Henry II) and Katharine Hepburn (Eleanor of Aquitaine) much to get their teeth into though the handsome production only emphasises the material's historical conveniences. Director: Anthony Harvey. 1988.

LISZTOMANIA

(Warner, 18) Tawdry showcase for Ken Russell's worst excesses with Roger Daltrey, fresh from *Tommy*, as a hideously vulgarised Franz Liszt, cast in the mould of a rock music performer. Strong stomachs are required. 1975.

THE LION IN WINTER

(Channel 5, 15) Plantagenets gather for Christmas and quarrel. James Goldman's play gives Peter

GEOFF BROWN

BRIEFING

Jam but few additives

THE Hard Rock Café, the preferred West End eatery for the rock 'n' roll *demi-monde*, has hit on a novel way to mark the 20th anniversary of Jimi Hendrix's death. On September 18 the café will host an Irish wake, a private musical celebration in honour of Hendrix's memory. This star-laden affair is being organised by Mitch Mitchell, former drummer of the Jimi Hendrix Experience, who is hoping to get "all the people who should be there" involved in a commemorative jam session.

The trouble is that, after so many years, it is proving difficult to track down some of the 200 invitees on Mitchell's list. Peter Green, who impressed Hendrix more than any other English guitarist, is now a recluse and unlikely to turn up. And Mitchell has had no luck in contacting Dusty Springfield, with whom Hendrix once sang a duet of "Mockingbird" or Eric Burdon, the ex-Animals singer. Dusty and Eric, your invitations await.

Foreign policy

AMERICAN orchestras apparently still cling to the belief that the only great conductor is a non-American one. That was confirmed again by the announcement that the Cleveland Orchestra is extending the contract of German conductor Christoph von Dohnányi as music-director by a further five years. Dohnányi, is conducting the Cleveland Orchestra at the Proms tonight.

The other top American orchestras are equally dazzled by foreigners. Kurt Masur (German) has recently been appointed in New York. Riccardo Muti (Italian) has served a long stint in Philadel-

TELEVISION

The casualties of war and peace

AS GERMANY reunites, it starts to consider its own past in the light of fresh evidence. Some of that came to BBC 2 last night when *Timewatch*, consistently the best historical documentary series on television, examined the findings of a Canadian novelist, James Bacque, who contends that a million Germans died as prisoners of the Allies in the early summer of 1945.

By April 1945, with the sudden collapse of Berlin, five million Germans were on their way to American prisoner-of-war camps. Newsreel footage of German concentration camps caused the American guards, many of them exhausted combat veterans, to question their responsibilities towards a nation which had behaved with such bestiality.

The official line from Washington was that Geneva Convention rules were to be obeyed if the Allies were not to descend to the level of their enemies. Even so, 1,200 Germans are known to have died in a month at one Regenau camp alone, where survivors were left standing in holes they themselves had dug in open fields for protection. Wrist-watches were stolen by American guards and Germans were allowed to drown when they slipped into trenches of their own urine. German and American witnesses talked of sheds full of food un-delivered to German prisoners, hundreds of whom had killed their son as did the driver for killing him.

The government has still given no date for a White Paper on the subject, and by tonight there will be another 15 corpses. Definitions of reckless or even careless driving are often hard for a jury to achieve, while death itself is usually considered only incidental to the driving charge. Natural justice and criminal law appear here to be on opposite sides of the courtroom. Only the tragic rage of the bereaved is at present likely to achieve any real change.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

CINEMA: INTERVIEW

Talent deserts to Tinseltown

Oscar Moore talks to Michael Caton-Jones, British director of *Memphis Belle*

friends to appear in a series of home-made shorts. "I wrote, shot and directed the first one in a week. It had Maureen Lipman in it, which was great. I wrote and directed three films in six months, so then I thought I'd better find out why I was doing this and I applied to the National Film School."

His first-year film, *Liebe Mutter*, an obliquely autobiographical film about a German arriving in London for the first time, won the Best European Student Film Award in Munich and was bought by both German television and Channel 4. His second film, *The River*, was screened at the Edinburgh Film Festival where it attracted the attention of David Benedictus, then a commissioning editor at Channel 4, who gave the student director his first professional job.

"To me, the joy of making films is that they are the sum total of every single person's contribution," says Caton-Jones. "You change one person and you have a totally different film. You can't control everything, so why try? Why not make room for people to do good work and let them select the best? Everybody's got a good idea somewhere. It just comes down to me being the person who says yes or no."

"Over the last four years all I've wanted to do is go to Hollywood and make films," says the 32-year-old Scotsman, sounding almost wounded that anyone should criticise him or talk of defection. "Anyone who has ever known me has known that I've made no bones about it at all. It's where my sensibilities are. The films that are my inspiration are the classics of American cinema of the Thirties and Forties: Ford, Hawks, Wyler, Capra. They're the films that I can watch again and again."

Caton-Jones has always wanted to make movies, a legacy from a childhood of free Saturday matinees (he was given a free cinema pass in return for delivering posters to high street shops). He arrived in London at the age of 18 where he worked as a stagehand in the West End, while continuing to write short stories. "In retrospect I can see that being a stagehand gave me a taste for the physical production side of things, while the writing was taking care of the intellectual side. And when I discovered directing it was the perfect synthesis of the two sides of my nature. From then on it was very obvious what I wanted to do. That's all I've ever wanted to do."

"I would love to stay here and make films. But if you cannot even get to first base with a project it is too frustrating. The thing is, in America they make films all the time."

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BBC 1

- 8.00 Ceefax
8.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurence Mayer and Jill Dando 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by *The Odd Couple*, American comedy series starring Jack Klugman and Tony Randall in a mismatched apartment shares (r)
9.30 *Best of British*, the celebration of 50 years of Rank films continues with an examination of the battle between good and evil in the cinema. Clips include Deborah Kerr in *Black Narcissus* and David Niven in *A Matter of Life and Death* (r) 9.55 *The Travel Show* Traveller in Trier, West Germany. 10.00 News and weather followed by *The Pink Panther Show*
10.25 *Children's BBC* presented by Andi Peters begins with *Playdays* (r) 10.50 *Crystal Trips and Alizair*, Animated adventures of a young girl and her toy dog
10.55 *Five to Eleven*, Actor Freddie Jones reads John Clare's 19th-century nature poems (r)
11.00 News and weather followed by *Hudson and Halls*, The Kew cooks create an authentic Italian cheesecake and prepare strawberries in an unusual way. Three Degrees singer Sheila Ferguson is on hand to help (r)
11.30 *Wildlife Safari* to the Argentine, in the footsteps of Portuguese navigator Magellan, the expedition explores the wildlife along the coast of Patagonia (r)
11.55 *The Historyman* examines smuggling activities in 18th and 19th century East Anglia (r)
12.00 News and weather followed by *The Gardener Party* introduced by Paul Cole, Debbie Greenwood and Denis Tufts. Among the guests is an Orkney family who have sold their home and are planning to move to China in a horse-drawn caravan and cart. Denis Lawson, Sally Jones and keep-fit ideas for schoolchildren 12.55 Regional news and weather



Linda Robson (left), Pauline Quirke (8.30pm)

- 1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton 1.30 *Neighbours*, (Ceefax)
1.50 Film: *My Galisha* (1961). Shirley MacLaine and Yves Montand star in a barely amusing comedy about a film director, tired of being known only as the director of his wife's film, who decides to make a version of *Madam Butterfly* without using her. But she has other ideas. Directed by Jack Cardiff.
3.45 *Bugs Bunny*, Cartoon 4.10 *The All New Popeye Show* (r) 4.30 *Bad Boys*, Episode seven of the ten-part children's comedy drama starring Steven Kemble as the schoolboy teacher known as Mr (r)
5.00 *Newsworld* 5.10 *Steel Riders*, Final episode of the fast-moving thriller for children (r) (Ceefax)
5.25 *Newsround* 5.45 (r) (Ceefax), Northern Ireland: Sports 5.40 Inside Ulster.
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey, Weather
6.30 *Regional News Magazines*, Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*
7.00 *Top of the Pops* introduced by Jakki Phipps (simultaneous broadcast with Radio 1)
7.20 *Eastenders*, (Ceefax)
8.00 *Life On One*, Sarah Greene and Simon Mayo present the topical magazine and offer hints on how to survive the decade
8.30 *Blind as a Fisher*: Getting a Grip, *Or-CHOOSE*, new writer, Peter Tilbury, has taken over for the start of the second series but without any noticeable change in the style or the standard of one of the best situation comedies of the past few years. It is also one of the most popular, regularly attracting audiences of 12 million people. Sharon and Tracey, wives of villains and an elocutionist's nightmare, are low-life anti-heroes who arouse sympathy because of their refusal to buckle down and conform. They are cheeky and earthy and do not talk in euphemisms. Perfectly incarnated by Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson, actresses who might have been invented for the roles, their quirky humour can lift the timest routines. Many a sitcom episode would have

founded on tonight's joke about trying to get hold of a plumber but Quirke and Robson, helped by the punchy script, keep it bubbling to the end. (Ceefax), Northern Ireland:

- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk, Regional news and weather
9.30 *Crimewatch UK*, Sue Cook and Nick Ross appeal to the public to help solve serious crimes. In July this year, two young boys were sexually assaulted while fishing in the Lancashire holiday town of Lytham. The attack took place close to Lytham Hall, where the *Guardian* Royal Exchange Assurance Company was holding its annual meeting. The company has recognised the event as an attempt to jog the memories of the 4,000 people who enjoyed the fete. (Ceefax)
10.15 Film: *High Risk* (1982), implausible and strictly second division caper movie starring James Brolin, Lindsay Wagner and Anthony Quinn. A wealthy drug dealer lives luxuriously in a fortress-style Colombian villa until four men, led by a Green Beret veteran, decide to steal the profits he has hoarded away. Directed by Stewart Raffill

- 11.45 *Crimewatch Update*, The latest developments on the cases shown earlier. (Ceefax)
11.55 Weather

- defends his title against the leading players on the European circuit, among them Nick Faldo, Mark James and Sam Torrance. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50
5.30 *A Tale from the Riverbank*, A look at how Keith Floyd, tired of the notorious life led by a television chef, bought a pub in Devon and, in six hectic weeks, turned it into his dream inn (r)
6.00 Film: *The Treasure of Pancho Villa* (1965) starring Rory Calhoun, Gilbert Roland and Shelley Winters. Despite the efforts of the high class cast, a plodding account of the exploits of an American mercenary who decides to hijack a train carrying gold destined for the Mexican revolutionary leader Pancho Villa. Directed by George Sherman
7.35 *Business Matters: Counter Revolutions*, The first of two reports by John Humphrys on the introduction of western consumer goods behind the Iron Curtain. Poles and Hungarians are being tempted with products such as whirlpool baths and satellite dishes. But as food subsidies are removed, competition is introduced and price rises and they are experiencing for the first time the capitalist diseases of unemployment and inflation, which may make luxury goods the preserve of the wealthy elite. Wales: *Gardening Together*

- 8.00 The "Stop" Maxwell Story, Superior American comedy series starring Dabney Coleman as a sports journalist with personal as well as professional problems
8.25 *Farnborough 90*, Noel Edmunds, Rob Curling, Julian Tuit and John Hutchinson visit the world's leading aerospace exhibition, where they look at the latest developments in the world of aviation
9.00 *The Tracey Ullman Show*, Comic playlets featuring the talents of Tracey Ullman, with support from Julie Kavner. With a special appearance by Steven Spielberg
9.20 *Strangeways - The Final Chapter*, After the screening of a film about the Christmas of 1980 at Strangeways, which shows the despair of the inmates and the futility of a system which imprisons a man at a cost of £120 for non-payment of £25 fine, Peter Taylor leads a debate between former inmates and prison warders on what has been learnt or altered at the prison in the intervening decade and in particular since the April riots
10.30 *Newsnight* with Jeremy Paxman
11.15 *The Late Show*, Michael Ignatieff interviews Palestinian writer and critic, Edward Said 11.55 *Weather*
12.00 *Open University: Weekend Outlook* 12.05 *Urban Development: Gainers and Losers*. Ends at 12.30

whose sudden death, apparently suicide, involves Morse personally as well as professionally

- 12.50 *Into Print: The Power of the Pixel*, Michael Bywater presents a new series about the technological revolution which has changed the face of publishing from Fleet Street to parish newsletters
1.20 Mr Benn (r) 1.35 *Paint*, John Fitzmaurice Mills with advice on improving painting technique (r)
2.00 News and weather followed by *Golf*, Harry Carpenter introduces live coverage of the first round of the Panasonic European Open from Sunningdale, where Andrew Murray

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Enquiry backs proposal for Hinkley Point nuclear plant

By DAVID YOUNG

JOHN Wakeham, the energy secretary, is to announce today that controversial plans to build Britain's next nuclear power station at Hinkley Point, Somerset, have been approved by a public enquiry.

The final decision on whether the power station, the third nuclear power plant on the site, will be built will depend on the outcome of a government review of the entire nuclear option in 1994.

However, the clearing of the formal planning hurdle by the project will be a considerable boost to the nuclear power industry and a disappointment to environmental groups that had hoped that privatisation of the power industry would finally kill Britain's nuclear power programme.

It will mean that the team of nuclear engineers working on the project will be kept together by Nuclear Electric, the state company that will run the nuclear network after privatisation.

Mr Wakeham will use the recall of Parliament to answer a written parliamentary question allowing publication of the 3,000-page report on the public enquiry conducted by Michael Barnes, QC.

The Central Electricity Generating Board, the predecessor of Nuclear Electric, pressed ahead with its application for the Hinkley plant in spite of a government decision to halt the building of further nuclear stations, at least until 1994, when an economic review is scheduled.

The company wants to establish an option to build a pressurised water-cooled (PWR) reactor at Hinkley Point if the nuclear building programme is resumed. It has withdrawn applications for two further PWRs at Wylfa, Anglesey, and Sizewell.

The £10 million, year-long public enquiry ended in November, soon after the Government withdrew nuclear power from privatisation and halted construction of further plants until 1994.

The application to build at Hinkley Point has become a highly controversial attempt to establish a future option for Nuclear Electric. Opponents have described the refusal to abandon the Hinkley application as a face-saving exercise.

Nuclear Electric takes the view that winning approval for the plant now would avoid substantial delay if the 1994 review favours resumed nuclear expansion. However, opponents will argue that a new enquiry should then be called.

Progress in research into issues such as safety and radioactive waste management will have rendered out of date much of the evidence given to the enquiry. The inspector has examined broad safety and environment questions and his recommendations are also likely to have implications for

existing nuclear stations, including Sizewell B.

The Hinkley Point C project has been opposed by more than 20,000 individuals and organisations, including national environment groups and a consortium of local authorities.

There are already two nuclear power stations at Hinkley Point, and, by the time a third could be built, the oldest plant, a first-generation Magnox power station, is almost certain to be closed.

The industry says nuclear power does have a significant role because it can replace coal-fired stations that produce large amounts of carbon dioxide, one of the main greenhouse gases.

However, opponents said that using nuclear power in this way will merely divert money from energy conservation, which they claim, would be more effective in reducing global warming.

The first contracts for work on the project have already been placed. The contract is with Framatome, the French nuclear power plant builder, which will supply the reactor for the station.

Hinkley's reactor pressure vessel would be the second that Framatome would produce for the British PWR nuclear programme. It will be almost identical to the one for Sizewell B, Britain's first PWR station, which Framatome delivered this year.

Britain's nuclear electricity programme began in 1953, when the British Electricity Authority, forerunner of the CEGB, formed a nuclear power branch.

In 1955, the first nuclear power station programme was launched with the government ordering Magnox-type plants with combined capacity of 2,000MW.

In 1962, there was a switch to Advanced Gas Cooled reactors (AGRs). The first five AGRs were ordered: Dungeness B, Hinkley Point B, Hartlepool, Heysham and Hunterston B.

Three more Magnoxes, Trawsfynydd, Hinkley Point A, and Dungeness A, became operational in 1965. In 1976, the first AGRs, Hinkley Point B and Hunterston B, were commissioned.

China closes last ivory loophole

By MICHAEL McCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

CHINA, the last country officially permitting the import of ivory, is to join the worldwide ban on the trade from next January, it was learnt yesterday, thus putting a formal end to the international ivory market.

The Chinese government has told the Lausanne-based Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) that on January 1 it will withdraw the reservation it took out when the ban was agreed last October.

Although seven states exempted themselves from the ban, five African countries, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana and

of explosives blew up after a warning. Apart from the school, a police station, a church and 30 houses were damaged in the blast.

Two brothers were injured when terrorists opened fire on their van in an ambush

outside Magherafelt, co Londonderry yesterday. The men worked for a local construction company which in the past has been targeted by the IRA for carrying out sub-contract work for the security forces in Northern Ireland. The transit van

carrying the building workers managed to drive on through the ambush to the Mid-Ulster hospital where they were treated for gunshot wounds.

Their condition later was described as "comfortable."

German unity treaty faces Soviet hurdle

From ANNE McELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

THE final round of talks on international aspects of German reunification hit a last-minute hitch yesterday over details of Soviet troop withdrawal from East Germany.

Senior civil servants from East and West Germany met officials from the four second world war allies in East Berlin to draft the final accord on unity due to be signed by the foreign ministers of the six countries in Moscow next Wednesday.

Diplomats attending the two-plus-four talks said last night that arrangements for the withdrawal of the 360,000 Soviet troops were holding up their completion. The preamble to the accord, and the formula laying down the borders of a unified Germany have been drawn up, but the status of the Soviet forces between now and 1994 in what will be a Nam member country remain controversial.

The talks were extended into the night to try to complete them on schedule, but the matter is thought unlikely to hold up the timetable for unification scheduled for October 3 or next week's meeting of foreign ministers in Moscow.

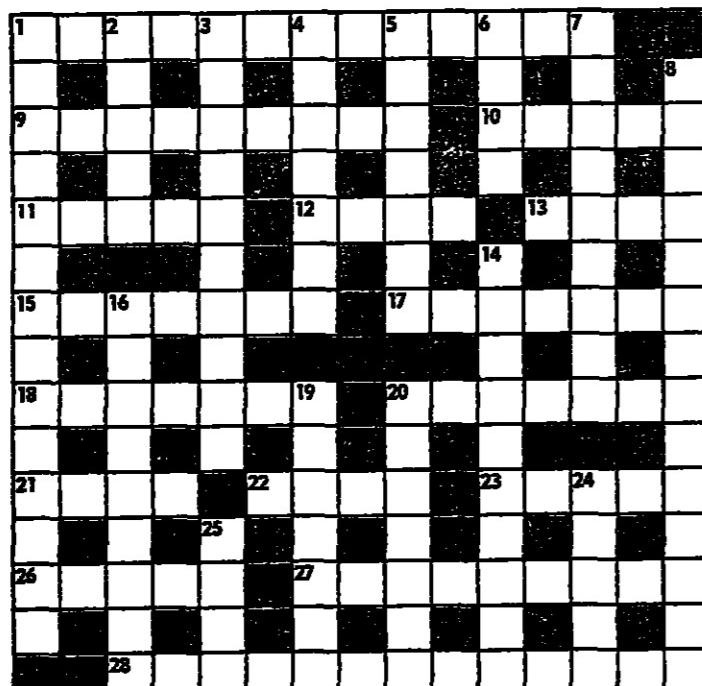
Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, has agreed with President Gorbachev that the forces will quit East Germany within the next four years, but Moscow is anxious to avoid the impression that its army is being forced to leave.

The Soviet Union wants to be seen to be delivering Germany into full sovereignty of its own accord in order to quell complaints from Kremlin conservatives that President Gorbachev has too easily relinquished the strategic spoils of the second world war. Agreement on the internal aspects of unity was signed last week.

Moscow has requested extensive aid to provide badly needed housing for the returning troops but Bonn appears to be unwilling to match the extent of the Soviet request for funds.

• Unification ceremony: Mr Gorbachev will travel to Berlin for next month's unification ceremony. East German radio reported yesterday in a report from Moscow, it said that Mr Gorbachev hopes to shake President Bush's hand at the Brandenburg Gate. (AP)

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,392



Continued from page 1
long telephone conversation last night and you can put two and two together from that."

However, Henry Richardson, the Nottinghamshire president of the NUM and a supporter of Mr Scargill, said the visit to France would definitely go ahead. "There is no doubt in my mind that we can establish the money belongs to the NUM. Mr Simon will stand his ground, but I believe we will resolve the issue at the end

of the day." The planned visit is highly embarrassing for Mr Scargill who is president of the IMO as well as the NUM, a conflict of interest now concerning the leaders of the NUM. He and M Simon would have to sanction the transfer of funds out of the reach of his own union for the last five years, which are now being denied again.

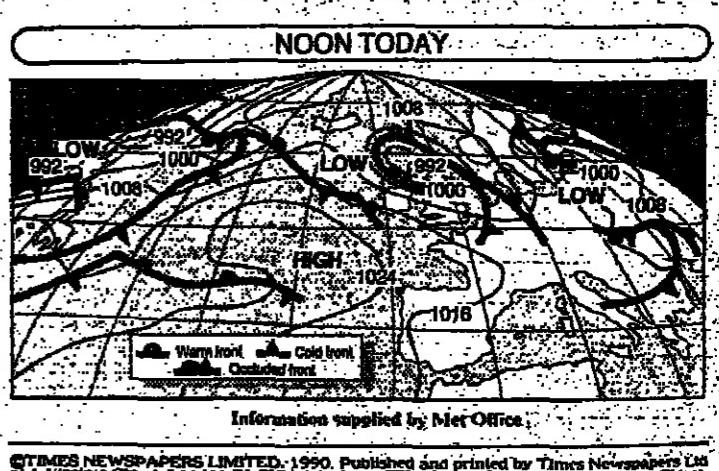
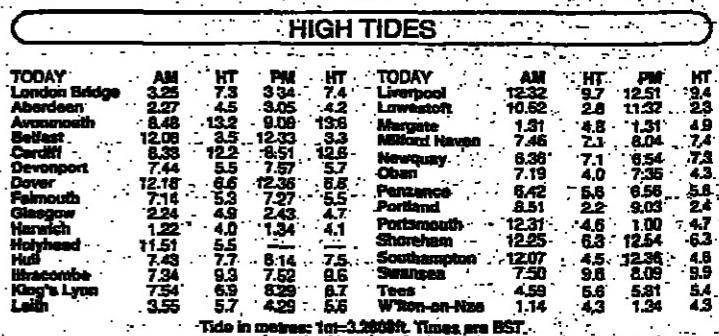
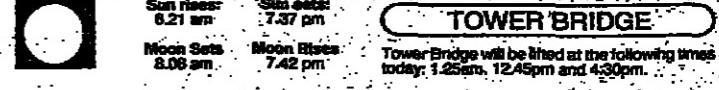
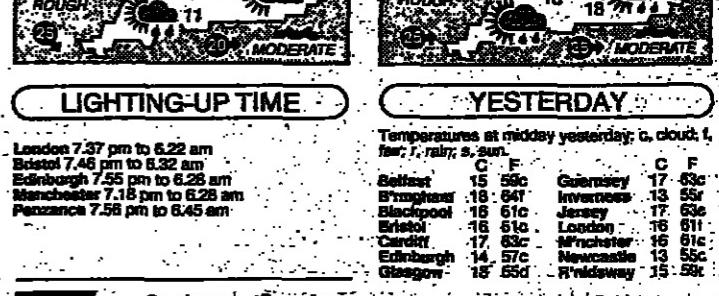
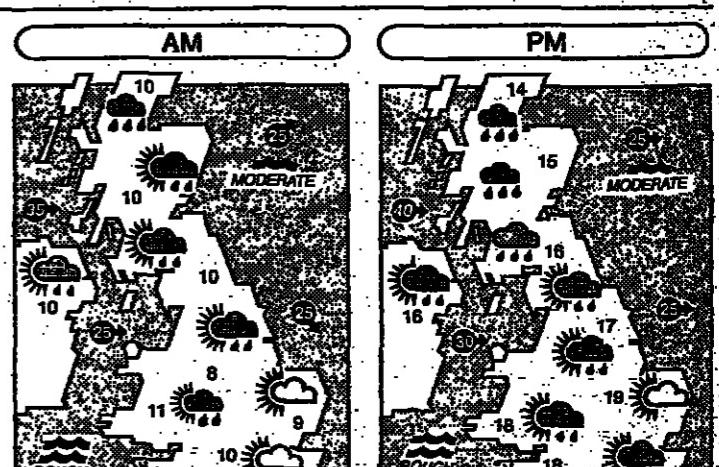
Next week's meeting of the NUM's national executive committee is now expected to point

out that Mr Scargill cannot be in charge of both organisations. Mr Rees said: "Arthur Scargill should remember who pays his wages and has got to make up his mind up whether he is president of the NUM or the IMO."

Mr Scargill has always maintained that the Soviet donations were intended for miners internationally, not just the NUM. However, his position was further undermined yesterday by the leaking of two letters from Soviet

union leaders which condemn statements that the £1 million of Soviet money was for the use of a unified Germany have been drawn up, but the status of the Soviet forces between now and 1994 in what will be a Nam member country remain controversial.

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WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

JUPPY

- a. A Japanese ruyphi
- b. The yearling cod
- c. A junk-bond dealer

DVANDVA

- a. A snow-covered mountain pass
- b. A compound word
- c. A Norse matrarch

RULLION

- a. A beggarly knave
- b. A rawhide shoe
- c. A groove for a wheel

LAMBOYS

- a. Bull's boys
- b. A steel kill
- c. Flambeaux

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0833 401 followed by the appropriate code.

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M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways 737

Motorways 738

Midlands 740

East Anglia 741

North-west England 742

North-east England 743

Scotland 744

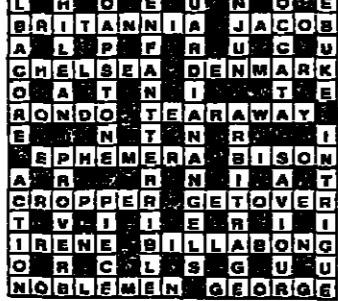
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

ACROSS

- 1 Where to eat on the run? (10,3).
- 9 In vehicle girl goes back to the map (9).
- 10 Profound attribute of Neptune's kingdom (5).
- 11 Power of aircraft gaining height (5).
- 12 Played a waiting game with the Queen? (4).
- 13 Effect of a short leg is not vital (4).
- 15 Uses trick to break up international organization (7).
- 17 Flat cake in ketchup at Indian take-away (7).
- 18 Obscure, like a consultancy of old (7).
- 20 Dog-eat-dog? (4,3).
- 21 A box, perhaps, for an old stager (4).
- 22 "Dreaming when _____'s Left Hand was in the Sky" (Fitzgerald) (4).
- 23 Flower blown by the wind (5).
- 24 Both sides at Lords switch positions (3-3).
- 25 In Miller one perhaps found something soothing (9).
- 26 Chef comes into a lot of money that's not takes the biscuit in Austria? (7,6).
- 27 In Miller one perhaps found something soothing (9).
- 28 Chef comes into a lot of money that's not takes the biscuit in Austria? (7,6).
- 29 A. The poor sap is upset by sign of omission (10).
- 30 It could be a hanging matter for the Church? (7).
- 31 Wandering Dominican drops in before conversion (7).
- 32 Rules not meant to be broken (4).
- 33 Salesman exhibits surround with carpet (9).
- 34 Focal point in town for informers? (8,6).
- 35 Upturn in City game about an award (10).
- 36 Debagged successfully? (6,3).
- 37 Country house for talk and Adam's ale abroad (7).
- 38 Agreeable to have a bit of success (7).
- 39 European has to admit wanting a king (5).
- 40 Service, a climber, is a long way out (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,391



Concise crossword, page 13

Accents 1 Aglitter
L 1 More 2 Undone
S 1 Tannia 3 Jacob
A 1 Puff 4 Tug
C 1 Lida 5 Denmark
O 1 Tuna 6 Tuna
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- DEGREE RESULTS 33
- SPORT 34-38

BUSINESS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Goodman loan went to Irish farmer

THE £125 million (£22.6 million) loan from the Irish section of Mercantile Credit to an offshoot of Goodman Industries, the stricken Irish meat group, which is currently the subject of court proceedings in Cyprus, was, in turn, lent to Joe Kenny, a Tipperary farmer, if emerged yesterday.

Mr Kenny, hitherto virtually unknown in Irish business circles, has become a major player on the Dublin property market in recent months. He is also a defendant in the case being brought by the Irish branch of Mercantile Credit in an effort to recover a disputed £27 million.

Last March ABP, a Goodman subsidiary, borrowed £25 million from Mercantile Credit. This loan was to have been supported by a £25 million deposit from a third party which never materialised. ABP, in turn, lent the money to Mr Kenny.

After several transactions, £20 million was deposited in the Bank of Cyprus ABP and Mr Kenny are plaintiffs in a case due to be heard in the Cyprus courts this month in an effort to claim the money. ABP was forced to repay the loan to Mercantile in January when it was unable to recover the money.

The Bank of Cyprus yesterday stated it was not willing to withhold the money from ABP, but that the funds had been frozen by a preliminary court action in the court of Paphos pending the outcome of the case.

Eurotunnel's banks confident

The principal bankers to Eurotunnel are growing confident they can "salvage" the cross-channel operator's £2.5 billion fund-raising scheme after a frantic round of diplomacy among its 210 bankers in the last three weeks.

Eurotunnel's four agent bankers, National Westminster, Midland, Crédit Lyonnais and Banque Nationale de Paris, met privately in London yesterday to discuss the progress of their £2 billion debt syndication.

Comment, page 27

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8975 (+0.0225)
W German mark
2.9688 (-0.0013)
Exchange index
94.7 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1672.2 (+1.3)
FT-SE 100
2152.2 (+4.2)
New York Dow Jones
2620.54 (+7.17)
Tokyo Nikkei Avg
24078.34 (-829.30)
Closing Prices ... Page 31
Major indices and
major changes ... Page 28

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month Interbank: 14%
3-month gilt: 14%
3-month Treasury Bills: 7.38-7.36%
30-year bonds 97.50-97.52%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£ 1.8975	\$ 1.8955
DM 2.9688	DM 1.5625
SwF 2.4649	SwFr 1.2975
FF 19.9524	FF 5.2365
Yen 169.15	Yen 141.65
Index 94.7	Index 94.7
ECU 0.654078	SDR 0.733853
£ 1.8975	SDR 1.325700

GOLD

London Fixing:
Close \$384.60-\$383.30
close \$386.75-\$387.25 (203.75)
New York:
Close \$387.00-\$387.50

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) ... \$29.80 bbl (£26.80)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
2.405	2.245	2.245
Austria Sch	21.70	20.00
Belgium Fr	2.275	2.145
Denmark Kr	11.85	11.18
Finnland Mark	7.31	6.91
France Fr	10.35	9.65
Germany Dm	269.00	263.00
Greece Dr	15.20	14.60
Hong Kong \$	1.095	1.075
Ireland Pt	2.910	2.715
Italy Lira	267.50	267.50
Netherlands Gld	3.475	3.275
Norway Kr	11.85	11.25
Portugal Esc	225.25	225.25
South Africa Rand	183.25	181.25
Sweden Fr	11.34	10.72
Switzerland Fr	2.57	2.50
United Arab Emirates Dir	425.00	425.00
USA \$	1.98	1.97
Yugoslavia Dinar	25.25	25.25

Notes for small denominations bank only.
Supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to inter-bank cheques.
Retail Price Index: 128.7 (June)

IEA forecasts oil shortages by November

By MARTIN BARROW

THE International Energy Agency yesterday warned consumers of regional shortages in oil supplies by November if the embargo on Iraq and Kuwait remains in place.

The IEA, which represents leading oil consumers, said a combination of stock drawdowns and increased production by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries would ensure continuity of supply to the end of October.

But the Paris-based agency gave a warning that rising demand in the fourth quarter as winter approaches would result in regional supply problems.

The warning came as oil prices rose to \$30 a barrel for the first time since Opec agreed to increase output in an effort to compensate for the 4.5 million barrels a day lost through the blockade of Iraq and Kuwait. In London October Brent traded at \$29.55, up 70 cents after touching \$30.

The rise in the oil price, and continued speculation that sterling is about to enter the European exchange rate mechanism, sent the pound sharply higher in early trading. At one point, it had gained 2.3 cents against the dollar and a piffling against the mark. By the close in London, sterling was still up 2 cents to \$1.8945 but only marginally higher against the mark.

The IEA, which represents

18 industrialised nations, estimated the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development inventories on land cover 98 days of forward consumption, two days up on last year.

However, the supply outlook for the final two months of the year remains uncertain. "The market could become increasingly tighter during the winter months," said the IEA in its own market report for August. "This will come at a time when demand is seasonally highest and as the ability for significant commercial stockdrawdown gradually diminishes. Severe cold weather and extended refinery operations by industry at full capacity could also further increase market tightness," it said.

Stocks of petroleum products are much lower. World gasoline stocks are estimated at between 31 and 32 days, falling to less than 15 days in some less developed nations. The fear is that countries with lower stocks will bid up prices, putting further pressure on refineries which already working at almost full capacity.

The IEA expects OECD oil consumption to decline by 1 per cent during the fourth quarter of 1990 to 38.9 million barrels a day (bpd), compared with 38.4 million bpd for the comparable period in 1989. But a 3.5 per cent increase during the third quarter to 37.8 million bpd suggests an early start to stock building before winter in the northern hemisphere.

Mr Varzi, who had anticipated a stockbuild of 300,000 bpd during the third quarter, now forecasts a draw of 800,000 bpd, rising to 1.8 million bpd in the fourth quarter.

Oil analysts estimate that of the 98 days of forward supply

calculated by the IEA, about 29 days comprises government stocks which are unlikely to be used until supply difficulties become extreme.

Commercial stocks extend to about 69 days but a

substantial proportion, possibly one third, is required to keep downstream operations ticking over.

Mr Varzi said that as a result of the embargo, year-end commercial stocks would fall below 64 days of supply, the lowest since the early Seventies.

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Hillsdown interim recovers to £82.6m

By JOHN BELL, CITY EDITOR

HILLSDOWN Holdings, the food group, reports sharply higher half-time profits thanks to a spectacular recovery in its poultry and eggs division, which was badly hit last time by the salmonella scare and the Edwina Currie affair.

In the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits surged to £82.6 million (£67.6 million). Operating profits from poultry provided most of the boost, climbing from £3.2 million to £25.8 million on turnover 13 per cent higher at £365 million.

Harry Solomon, the chairman, said that the forecast recovery in the division has taken place against a background of growing confidence in growth prospects for white meat activities. Fresh meat, however, was hit by fears over bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

Markets had been difficult for non-food activities such as house building, office furniture and property, said Mr Solomon. But Fairview, Hillsdown's house building division, held up well, selling more units than in the comparable period of 1989. Building land had been bought at competitive prices.

Property operations were cut back. This would lead to lower profits in the full year,

although exposure to a difficult market would be reduced, said Mr Solomon.

The division reported sharply lower interim operating profits of £14.1 million (£26.8 million). The problems of Lowndes Queensway and tough trading in markets for office furniture held back the furniture division, which made profits of £8.5 million (£8.8 million).

Food, which has become Hillsdown's largest activity, accounting for 80 per cent of sales, was boosted by the inclusion of Premier Brands for the first time.

The merger of Maple Leaf Mills with CP gave Hillsdown 56 per cent of the enlarged group, now Canada's largest quoted food group. Food processing and distribution produced profits of £44.3 million (£30.1 million), while trading profits from fresh meat and bacon edged ahead to £11.1 million (£10.8 million).

There is an interim dividend of 2p per share, a rise of 11 per cent. Although pre-tax profits climbed 22 per cent, earnings per share grew by just 2.6 per cent to 11.92p due to the shares issued to finance the Premier Brands purchase. Hillsdown shares rose 6p to 254p.

T&N drives up to £46m

By MATTHEW BOND

INTERIM pre-tax profits at T&N, the automotive components and engineering group, rose by 15 per cent to £46.1 million in the first six months of this year. Colin Hope, the chairman, said he was pleased with the group's overall performance, despite hiccups in individual markets.

He said: "If you have a properly balanced spread of customers and countries, it is possible, even in these difficult times, to maintain a reasonable performance."

Sales of automotive components in Britain were hit by the strike at Ford and by reduced demand from Rover Group. But strong increases in sales in France and in America compensated for these reductions. Turnover for the automotive division in the first half was £389 million, more than 62 per cent of the group total. The interim dividend was increased to 3.6p (3.5p) a share.

In March, the company spent £120 million on buying JPI Industries, an American automotive components company. Mr Hope said he was confident that JPI would not be affected by a slowdown in



Colin Hope: pleased with overall performance

the American economy. "In second instalment of the convertible unsecured loan stock issued in connection with the JPI acquisition becomes payable, gearing would rise to about 50 per cent."

'Debt/equity' swap for Bond

From BRIAN BUCHANAN
IN SYDNEY

SENIOR executives of Bond Corp Holdings will offer a debt-to-equity swap this week to the company's British and European investors, in an attempt to save the company from liquidation.

The scheme of arrangement for the swap, prepared by Price Waterhouse, will offer the investors redeemable preference shares, which would

rank ahead of normal shares and be preferred in dividend treatment. Two Bond directors, Peter Lucas and Peter Mitchell, are in London and will be travelling across Europe in the next week to promote the scheme to investors.

It is a last-ditch effort to convince the unsecured lenders to convert their estimated Aus\$1.1 million (£458 million) debt to equity. London holders of Bond Corp's sterling

and American-dollar denominated bonds have agreed to form a committee to examine a restructuring.

It is understood that many European investors are still convinced they can get a return on their investment by forcing the company into liquidation. To convince them this is not so and the company scheme is their only alternative is a risky plan for Bond Corp because it could show the company has no assets.

Williams falls by 15% at half way

By MARTIN BARROW

FIRST-HALF pre-tax profits fell 13 per cent to £60.6 million at Williams Holdings, the industrial conglomerate, which gave a warning yesterday that a recovery was unlikely until interest rates were reduced.

Mr Nigel Rudd, the chairman, said: "The group continues to experience difficulty in its British consumer and building products businesses. These will not show a significant improvement until interest rates are reduced and a more optimistic economic climate prevails. An improvement in these conditions does not appear likely in the current year."

Pre-tax profits for the six months to the end of June are before exceptional costs of £3.35 million, being reorganisation expenses. An extraordinary profit of £79.14 million arose from the sale of Crown Paints in May.

Fully-diluted earnings, a share, excluding exceptional costs, fell from 12.5p to 10.8p but the interim dividend is increased from 4.5p to 4.75p.

Operating profits from continuing businesses declined by 4 per cent to £59.8 million on turnover almost unchanged at £385 million.

The consumer and building products division suffered an 18 per cent fall in trading profits to £25.8 million on turnover just £8 million higher at £213 million. Industrial and military products earned £34.4 million, against £31 million, on sales £12 million down at £172 million.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Same Croda payout as profit tops £17m

CRODA International, the speciality chemicals group, is maintaining the interim dividend at 4.1p a share in anticipation of uncertain trading conditions during the second half of the year. Taxable profits for the first half of 1990 increased by 4 per cent to £17.2 million.

Michael Valentine, chairman, said that although he was "cautiously optimistic" about the outlook for the rest of 1990, it was prudent to pay an unchanged dividend to reflect "unusually unsettled circumstances" in both domestic and international markets. He added that directors would consider an increase in the dividend when the year's results were known and, it was hoped, the general outlook was clearer. A higher tax charge, due to a lower level of advance corporation tax relief, resulted in unchanged earnings at 8.9p a share.

Poulenc gives profit warning

RHÔNE-Poulenc, the French state-owned chemical group, reported a slump in first half net profit and said the deteriorating economic situation could weigh more significantly on second half operating profits.

Rhône-Poulenc earlier announced attributable net profit of Fr2.18 billion in the first half of 1990, against Fr2.5 billion in the same 1989 half.

Sales record for MIM

MIM Holdings, the Australian mining group, earned a net profit of Aus\$2.75 million in the year ended July 1; compared with a net profit of Aus\$240.1 million previously, and had a record sales revenue of Aus\$1.9 billion. Sir Bruce Watson, chairman, said yesterday. The final is raised to 8 cents (7 cents) a share, making 12 cents (10 cents).

Allied profits fall

RISING costs and high interest rates cut interim pre-tax profits at Allied Partnership, the building services and plant hire company, by 25 per cent from £3.2 million to £2.4 million. Martyn Rose, chairman, said profits in the previous corresponding period had been inflated by property sales.

Turnover in the six months to June 30 dropped from £63.5 million to £57.9 million. The dividend was steady at 1p. Mr Rose said Allied was reducing overall operating costs, but the integration of United Forktrucks was taking longer than expected.

Tesco plans £50m venture for Gateway

TESCO, the supermarket group, is to develop a 90-acre site at Nantgarw, Mid-Glamorgan, South Wales, in a joint venture with the Welsh Development Agency. The development will include more than 1 million sq ft of industrial and commercial premises, worth up to £50 million when complete, and provide up to 3,000 jobs over the next five years.

Peter Black rises 7%

PETER Black Holdings, a supplier of consumer goods to Marks and Spencer, raised taxable profits by 7 per cent to £10.3 million in the year to June 2 on turnover up 3 per cent to £142.8 million. A final dividend of 2.07p makes 2.84p, up 18 per cent, payable from earnings of 13.35p a share (13.03p).

The results include a seven-month contribution from English Grains, pharmaceuticals and health remedies manufacturer, acquired in October for £12.8 million. Interest charges rose from £2.27 million to £3.29 million.

Amec falls to £28.6m at half time

By COLIN CAMPBELL

AMEC, the construction and engineering group, suffered a 25 per cent fall in pre-tax profits from £38 million to £28.6 million in the six months to June after an £8.5 million loss in its housing and property division.

Stephen Walls, chairman, says trading conditions in the pulp and paper industry were difficult in the half year, but interim turnover rose from £801.7 million to £836.1 million.

An interim dividend of 3.3p is in line with the company's forecast made at the time of listing.

The group says the outlook in Europe is for continued downward pressure on pulp prices, which will affect the group's pulp businesses, and the market for paper products is likely to remain extremely competitive. In North America, demand for carbonless products is strong and added capacity is planned.

Wiggins Teape yesterday announced a \$60 million deal to buy the Boise Cascade paper mill in Washington State, which has a capacity of 100,000 tons and employs 450 people.

The deal will establish a west coast presence for the group, and provide access to markets in the Far East and Australia, Mr Walls said.

COMPANY BRIEFS

QUICKS GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.5m (£1.9m)
EPS: 7.2p (9.3p)
Div: 2p (2p)

DONELON TYSOIN (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.1m (£1.1m)
EPS: 2.06p (2.41p)
Div: Nil (nil)

SELECTV (Fin)
Pre-tax: 20.4m loss
EPS: 0.85p loss (0.31p)
Div: Nil (nil)

WSP HOLDINGS (Int)
Pre-tax: 20.8m (£1.4m)
EPS: 4.9p (4.1p)
Div: 1.1p (0.9p)

NESTOR-BNI (Int)
Pre-tax: £3.5m (£2.2m)
EPS: 4.40p (3.32p)
Div: 1.15p (1.0p)

STAT-PLUS (Int)
Pre-tax: 22.9m (£2.2m)
EPS: 8.7p (8.4p)
Div: 2.75p (1.75p)

HERITAGE (Fin)
Pre-tax: 21.17m loss
EPS: 16.74p loss (11.25p)
Div: 1.25p (1.25p)

HERRING SON (Int)
Pre-tax: 21.8m (£21.8m)
EPS: 9.71p (10.25p)
Div: 3.0p (2.5p)

New car sales fell 5 per cent during half year with second quarter becoming more difficult. Group is watching costs carefully.

A final dividend at least matching last year's 0.75p is expected. Group says demand has slowed and orders are weaker. Loss compares with a profit of £158.161 last year. Company says this level of losses will not be repeated.

Company expects benefits from recently-acquired Parsons Brown and Donald Rudd, both in the second half and more significantly in 1991. Trading conditions remain difficult but company is confident of an advance in the second half.

Company gives a warning that the general economic slowdown could affect its results.

Loss compares with profit of £244,000 last time. Company will stop expanding by acquisition and return to organic growth.

Company says there are signs that agency activity has reached a peak. The company looks forward to next year with confidence.

DIVIDENDS UP AN EFFECTIVE 20 PER CENT

SIX MONTHS RESULTS

£1=Sl.67 for 1990 (\$1.64 for 1989)

	Six months to June 1989	1990	Change
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	£668m	£592m	-11%
INTERIM DIVIDENDS PER SHARE - ACTUAL	19.60p	20.70p	+6%
- PROFORMA*	17.25p	20.70p	+20%

(The 1989 comparative figures have been restated at average exchange rates, following a change in accounting policy.)

- Encouraging overall business growth in difficult climate.
- Tobacco: trading profit up 19 per cent with continuing export success.
- Financial services: strong performance from Farmers, Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star Life offset by disappointing first half for Eagle Star's general business.
- "I am pleased with the growth trends in both our tobacco and financial services activities . . . the underlying performance may not be fully reflected in our reported results for 1990, subject as they are to world stock markets and exchange rates."
- Second interim dividend of 10.70p, making a total of 20.70p, an increase of 6 per cent.

*On a proforma basis, excluding dividends attributable to the demerged companies, total interim dividends are effectively up 20 per cent.

B·A·T INDUSTRIES

The full interim report is being posted to shareholders and copies are available from the Company Secretary, B·A·T Industries plc., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NL.

Do it in style

Eurotunnel's bankers seem to be softening towards the idea of stamping up their share of the extra £2 billion of loans needed to complete the project. It may yet prove difficult to melt the hearts of the hardest among the 210 lenders, but some appear to be facing up to some of the more absurd aspects of a problem which the banks themselves have helped to create.

The bankers insisted that, at all times, sufficient finance should be in place to complete the entire project. Unless that condition is met, Eurotunnel must go cap in hand to seek a waiver in order to gain access to the funds already raised.

Since the huge inflation in construction costs and sharply higher interest rates wrecked the original cost estimates, Eurotunnel has been forced back to its bankers on a number of occasions. Even now, the boring machines, less than two and a half miles away from completing the service tunnel, are chugging towards each other courtesy only of yet another bankers' waiver which expires later this month.

Eurotunnel's construction consortium, Transmanche-link, has skilfully used the atmosphere generated before each waiver renewal to gain wide publicity for its own disagreements with Eurotunnel over costs.

In fact, the project has already raised sufficient cash and equity to continue building until mid-1992, provided the waivers were to be granted.

But since the £500 million equity portion of the final funding package has already been pre-underwritten, it is the bankers themselves who are the sole obstacle to the fulfilment of their own full-funding condition.

The final irony is that if the banks do fail to put up the resources needed to remove this road-block to Eurotunnel's progress, they put themselves in an even less enviable position.

Under the terms of the original agreements, the banks are obliged to complete the project anyway if Eurotunnel is forced to cease

operation. This would involve the substantial additional expense of finding new project management and almost certainly TML would seize its opportunity to build in some £350 million of costs which are currently disputed by Eurotunnel.

The second alternative is to grant a waiver until the middle of next year when much of the work will have been completed and the construction risk, therefore, will be much diminished. At that point, perhaps with interest rates lower too, other forms of refinancing will be attractive.

The banks have the power to end these artificial "crises" over waivers. They should do so while remembering the old adage,

when you are in a hole it is best to stop digging.

In the market

Spot the odd one out:

1. This autumn's reporting season is off to a dismal start.
2. The world is facing the possibility of war in the Gulf.
3. Oil prices have doubled and may yet go higher.

4. The International Monetary Fund is talking of world recession.

5. The London stock market closed higher yesterday.

No prizes, not even the popular ERM board game, for picking out the London stock market as the good deal in the naughty world. But is it also a

reliable beacon in the international fog? The answer is probably "yes", and the rewards for getting it right could be substantial.

It is easy to be depressed by the corporate announcements so far this week. Few have contained any joy, many have been downright miserable and the remainder have been cautious. The season is proving that many sector analysts were too confident, too long and that their more remote economist colleagues, taking their "top down" approach, were closer to the mark.

The sector analysis at all securities houses are bringing down their forecasts in the light of experience and are now much closer to the "top down" estimates of zero growth in profits in 1990. Only those wise virgins, the oil analysts, go home at night with much of a smile, but then they have waited a long time for their darlings' day to come.

The direction, if not the distance, of most profit downturns and disappointments is already in the market. There are always exceptions, such as Williams Holdings, which yesterday presented its shareholders with their first profits fall, but in the main those companies which are painted the deepest crimson were known to be facing the toughest times. And there are distinct sectoral trends: Wimpey, Blue Circle and Amec, for instance, are all hit by the high interest rates we have seen for most of this year, and nobody could have expected Sun Alliance to have anything nice to say after the winds of the first quarter did their damage.

The market has most of this on board, which is why the gloom can be brushed aside and all eyes fixed on the will-we-won't-we join the ERM game.

The market price/earnings ratio is around ten and there it should be content to stay, unless matters do become significantly worse. Investors, meanwhile, should use their time and their cash to pick up quality stocks on the market's poorer days.

TEMPUS

Tobacco profits filter through the smoke of demerged BAT

BAT has effectively presented its interim report to end-June through a smokescreen, and yet despite a series of minus signs on some of the more important financial data, still manages to secure a vote of confidence from analysts.

It has demerged Wiggins Teape Appleton and Argos. It has switched to average exchange rates. It has had to make higher provisions at Eagle Star, which in turn has withdrawn from property development guarantee business.

BAT shows a 13 per cent rise in group turnover to £9.38 billion, but a 12 per cent fall in continuing group trading profit to £730 million, an 11 per cent decline in pre-tax profit to £592 million, and a 20 per cent fall in net earnings to 20.46p a share.

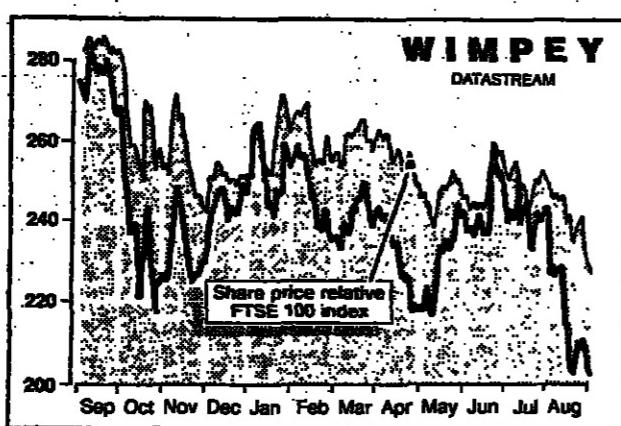
A second interim dividend of 10.7p makes 20.7p so far this year, against an actual 19.6p in last year's first half.

The warning that "the underlying performance may not be fully reflected in our reported results for 1990" could turn out to be a sting in the year-end tail. Now BAT has separated from Wiggins Teape Appleton and Argos, a higher tax charge (42.8 per cent for the half year) could be here to stay.

Tobacco operations brought in trading profits of £472 million (£397 million), while financial services contributed £256 million (£412 million). Eagle Star cut its underwriting loss in the second quarter, but the figure grew to a £189 million loss (£46 million loss) in the six months.

Farmers, Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star Life did well, but while Eagle Star has done well from its link with AA Insurance Services, lower world equity markets could hit the Eagle Star in the second half.

BAT's annual profits may



be in the £1.58 billion area, and headed for £1.79 billion in 1991. The annual dividend this year could be 31p. BAT, at 530p, is on a prospective p/e of 9.5 and yield of 7.8 per cent, and on yield grounds the shares have appeal.

Blue Circle

WAS Blue Circle Industries' management wearing its concrete boots this year? It certainly looks as if it's competitors caught it on the hop. BCI's cement sales dived 14.4 per cent in the first six months, against an industry contraction of "something in excess" of 10 per cent.

That a fair slice of its market share drove out of the yard when it attempted to pass on a 6 per cent rise in its own costs on March 1 is not disputed, but it is difficult to discover how much had been lost before prices were cut in line with competition.

Most of the business appears to have been reclaimed by the end of the period, but the group appears to be more satisfied than it should be with its "achievement" in holding British cement profits above the 1988 level.

They may be so. But the

stark truth is that these profits, at £37.2 million, were 30 per cent down on 1989 and can only be expected to worsen as the commercial property sector follows housebuilding over the cliff.

Meanwhile, the board is also less than forthcoming about Myson's impact on the home products' results, although it does seem that without the Myson numbers, heating, which contributed £9 million, against £4.2 million, might well have gone back wards.

The only consolation is a healthy balance sheet, showing gearing at 34.1 per cent and exemplary debt management that has kept the interest charge to £1.4 million.

Even so, BCI now looks like falling well short of £200 million this year, to produce earnings of, say, 20p a share. With no likelihood of an upturn in British construction before mid-1992, next year may be significantly worse. BCI's rating relies heavily on its yield.

George Wimpey

IT IS five months since Sir Clifford Chetwood, the chairman of George Wimpey, gave

Wednesday of next week when Bill Syson retires from the Bank of Scotland after 43 years. "I feel naked without it," says Syson, aged 59, who helped build up a business worth £1 billion as head of corporate banking at The Mound, the Bank of Scotland's Edinburgh head office.

A farewell cocktail party is being thrown in his honour at Claridges this evening with the likes of James Gulliver and Sir Philip Harris expected to be among the 250 or so bankers, accountants and solicitors invited. The party will be the third in a week for Syson, described by colleagues as one of the most popular men in corporate banking. Apart from devoting more time to music and art, Syson will now join the board of First International Leasing Corporation, the ship leasing group, and he reveals that he might also take a directorship with an as-yet unnamed oil and energy company in America.

ACCORDING to "identity specialist" Coley Porter Bell, Marks and Spencer is the biggest "sofie" of them all. The research firm asked 100 people which companies had a caring, consumer-friendly image, and which were known for being the opposite. M&S came top, with a 28.5 per cent vote, while BR fared worst, in the reverse poll, with a 28.8 per cent verdict. The "nasties" included BT, Woolworth, and McDonald's.

Bowled out

THE ever-diminishing num-

JAPAN is launching one of its seasonal goodwill missions to Europe to persuade the British and others that buying or building a presence in Japan is not the nightmare that T Boone Pickens would have you believe.

British businessmen and government officials are keen to hear the pitch but none will be holding his breath. For most foreign companies, investing in Japan is still a long and expensive process. And at best it is usually a very long time before the company begins to see any results.

The mission heads to London, Rome and Brussels next month under the guiding hand of Japan's famous ministry of international trade, whose bureaucrats turned Japan from a pile of postwar rubble to the world's most formidable exporter.

The £32.6 million fall in interim pre-tax profits is, according to Sir Clifford, entirely due to the slump in Wimpey's housebuilding division. The fall in profits suggests operating margins have been devastated. That impression is reinforced by the fact that Wimpey expects to sell 6,300 homes in 1990 (2,718 in the first half) only 11 per cent below 1989's 7,100.

Operating profits of £36.6 million, 43 per cent down on the 1989 figure, were hit by an almost 40 per cent rise in interest to £20.9 million. Of that, £5.4 million relates to interest on Wimpey's Little Britain office development in the City, pre-let to lawyer Clifford Chance, just one of the properties Wimpey will be hoping to sell in the traditionally stronger second half.

Expenditure on Little Britain means Wimpey's gearing is likely to stay at about 60 per cent for the foreseeable future. On trading alone, Wimpey looks overvalued. A forecast of £1.7 million gives earnings per share of about 14.5p. But with the land bank and commercial property portfolio underpinning the price, the downside for the shares, off 27p at 17p, looks limited, given Sir Clifford's commitment to higher dividends.

Mighty Miti comes to Europe with a mission to invest



Advance party for the friendly invasion: T Boone Pickens, left, and Asil Nadir

to point out was that it was 70 per cent of all stocks in the hands of stable shareholders and corporate allies, makes it difficult to pick up a large enough block of shares to launch a takeover bid.

The very idea of a takeover bid would make most Japanese businessmen faint. Dizzy land prices make offices in Japan expensive. The need to woo business partners over expensive dinners makes breaking into the market a long, tiring and pricey haul.

It is doubtful that British firms have been waiting for seed capital from Tokyo banks to launch themselves into Japan.

One consolation is that those foreign companies that succeed sometimes do well. Mitu says its latest statistics show foreigners' operating margins averaged 6.8 per cent, more than double the 2.8 per cent of Japanese firms.

JOE JOSEPH

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Money men rule the roost

FINANCE directors are the most sought after executive personnel in Britain. So says Goddard Kay Rogers, which claims to be the largest top-level head hunting consultancy in Britain. GKR says accountancy qualifications now open the door to salaries of £200,000 and more. "The job of chief executive is being filled more and more by people with a finance background," says David Kay, one of the firm's founders, adding that equity stakes and profit-related bonuses are increasingly necessary to persuade people to move. A typical package for directors on a salary of £100,000 - not uncommon for the chief executive of a medium-sized company - includes a bonus of up to 30 per cent, stock options up to four times salary, health insurance, generous pension and two cars. "An ability to talk to the City has also become important," adds Kay, aged 55, who commutes to GKR's offices in St James from his home in Cookham, Berkshire, and enjoys flying his Cessna 182. He is easily able to afford such a lavish life-style - head hunters often command a fee of up to a third of a new recruit's salary and bonus in their first year.

Jumped plane

RED faces and cold feet were

noticeable among the City's close-knit ranks of European market-makers this week. For

Wednesday of next week when Bill Syson retires from the Bank of Scotland after 43 years. "I feel naked without it," says Syson, aged 59, who helped build up a business worth £1 billion as head of corporate banking at The Mound, the Bank of Scotland's Edinburgh head office.

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Bowled out

THE ever-diminishing number of bowler hats to be seen in the Square Mile, will be reduced by yet one more on

CAROL LEONARD

■ ■ ■ For the first six months of 1990 net profit, including that of VSB Group, was up 3.8%. Adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations the increase was 8.7%.

■ ■ ■ Earnings per share rose by 5.4% to Dfl 2.92, reflecting last year's purchase of AMEV shares by VSB Group from third parties.

■ ■ ■ Total income was virtually unchanged at Dfl 5.4bn.

■ ■ ■ At 30 June shareholder funds amounted to Dfl 4.4bn (1989: Dfl 4.2bn).

■ ■ ■ Barring unforeseen circumstances and exchange rate fluctuations, earnings per share for 1990 are expected to be higher than for 1989.

(S1 = approx. Dfl 3.35)

Copies of the 1990 Half Year Report can be obtained from AMEV (UK) Limited, 1 Houndsditch Place, Southampton SO9 1NY. Telephone 0703 637411

AMEV Worldwide

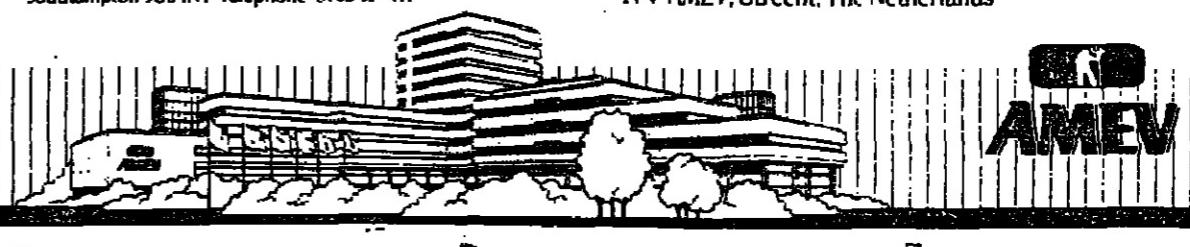
AMEV is an international insurance and financial services group based in the Netherlands. Its shares are quoted on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange and AMEV share options are traded on the European Options Exchange. Total assets are now Dfl 17bn.

AMEV operates in 11 countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and the USA. Its UK operations are conducted by Gresham Assurance Group and Bishopsgate Insurance Limited.

Future Expansion

AMEV is currently engaged in talks with AG Group, the largest insurance company in Belgium, with the aim of combining operations to form a single group. This would rank among the top 15 insurers in Europe and would play a major role in the developing European market.

N V AMEV, Utrecht, The Netherlands



AMEV

Two leave board of Conroy

By OUR CITY STAFF
CONROY Petroleum & Natural Resources, the Dublin mining company, has accepted the resignation of two directors appointed by Outokumpu OY, the state-owned Finnish metals and mining group, which is a 28 per cent shareholder.

Heikki Solin and Graham Maskell, who joined the board in March, resigned after Conroy challenged Mr Maskell's valuation of the company's main asset, the Galway zinc mine in Co Kilkenny.

The valuation appeared in a Sunday newspaper in Ireland shortly before Outokumpu notified Conroy that it had acquired a further one million shares.

Outokumpu acquired 20 per cent in 1986 but has been increasing its holding after Corus Corporation, a Canadian mining group, emerged with a 25 per cent stake last month.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily chg% (C)	Yearly chg% (C)	Daily chg% (US\$)	Yearly chg% (US\$)	Daily chg% (UK)	Yearly chg% (UK)
The World (free)	588.3	-1.1	-30.2	-0.6	-20.7	-0.3	-18.0
EAFE (free)	112.2	-1.1	-30.4	-0.7	-20.9	-0.3	-18.2
Europe (free)	1023.5	-1.2	-34.3	-1.4	-27.0	-0.4	-22.8
Europe (free)	104.8	-1.2	-34.5	-1.5	-27.4	-0.4	-23.2
Nth America (free)	632.8	-0.3	-16.8	-0.2	-13.1	0.5	-2.3
Nth America (free)	136.0	-0.3	-16.8	-0.4	-13.4	0.5	-2.2
Nordic (free)	418.8	-0.8	-22.2	0.0	-8.6	0.0	-8.6
Pacific (free)	1345.3	-0.2	-13.6	0.1	-6.3	0.7	1.6
Pacific (free)	216.2	0.0	-8.1	0.2	-6.6	0.8	8.0
Pacific (free)	2217.0	-2.0	-44.1	-2.3	-35.4	-1.2	-34.3
Far East (free)	3180.1	-2.1	-45.4	-2.3	-36.4	-1.3	-35.4
Australia	283.9	-0.5	-18.3	-0.9	-8.1	0.3	-4.0
Austria	1483.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.2	8.7	0.6	17.3
Belgium	749.3	0.0	-23.9	0.2	-19.1	0.9	-10.6
Canada	437.8	-1.1	-27.1	-0.5	-14.6	-0.3	-14.3
Denmark	1189.7	-0.2	-9.6	0.0	-3.2	0.6	6.2
Finland	81.3	-0.6	-29.5	-0.3	-24.3	0.2	-17.1
Finland (free)	108.1	-1.8	-27.5	-1.5	-22.2	-1.0	-14.8
France	612.5	0.6	-24.2	0.6	-19.2	1.4	-11.0
Germany	744.8	-2.5	-18.8	-2.4	-11.7	-1.7	-4.6
Hong Kong	2002.8	-1.4	-9.7	-0.6	5.6	-0.6	6.1
Italy	296.0	0.4	-23.2	0.7	-16.8	1.2	-9.8
Japan	3327.1	-2.2	-46.1	-2.5	-37.6	-1.4	-36.6
Netherlands	773.0	0.6	-18.2	0.8	-11.2	1.4	-3.9
New Zealand	76.2	-0.3	-28.1	-0.5	-17.2	0.8	-13.1
Norway	1418.4	0.1	5.7	0.2	14.0	0.9	24.2
Norway (free)	252.9	0.3	8.2	0.2	16.8	1.1	27.2
Portugal	1612.7	0.1	-19.2	0.0	-12.7	0.9	-5.0
Spain	180.4	-2.2	-23.8	-1.5	-19.5	-1.4	-10.5
Sweden	1462.8	-0.2	-16.5	0.1	-8.9	0.7	-2.0
Switzerland (free)	211.6	-0.1	-12.6	0.4	-4.5	1.0	2.7
Switzerland (free)	774.3	-0.1	-15.3	-0.2	-16.0	0.7	-0.5
UK	116.7	-0.1	-16.4	-0.2	-17.1	0.7	-1.7
USA	637.9	0.3	-11.5	0.3	-11.5	1.1	4.0
USA	378.2	-0.8	-21.7	-0.0	-8.0	-0.0	-8.0

(ft) Local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings Last Dealings Last Declaration For Settlement
August 28 September 14 December 5 December 17
Calls options were taken out on 5/9/90 Ovolo, Coron Beach, Glanar, Herne, Next, Ticker, Put Proteus.

Court of Appeal

Lack of power to make order

Regina v Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers Ltd, Ex parte Mordens Ltd Before Mr Justice McCullough [Judgment July 6]

A commissioner appointed to hear an appeal against a refusal to admit a company of futures brokers to a self-regulating body acted reasonably where he refused to make an order for discovery against that self-regulating body for certain information in relation to existing members of that body if he had no agreed or statutory powers to make an enforceable

order for such discovery.

Mr Justice McCullough so held in the Queen's Bench Division when refusing an interlocutory application by Mordens Ltd for judicial review of a refusal by a commissioner, Mr K. C. Goldie Morrison, on November 15 1989, to order discovery of certain information against the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers Ltd (AFBD) during the course of his hearing of an appeal by Mordens Ltd against AFBD's decision not to admit the company to its membership.

Mr Patrick Howell, QC, for

AFBD: Mr Anthony Mann for Mordens; Mr Nigel Plimpton for the commissioner.

MR McCULLOUGH said that Mordens traded as futures brokers and sought to become members of AFBD as a result of investment business.

That Act prohibited any person from carrying on the business of investment business unless he was exempt from that prohibition or was authorised so to do.

One way to obtain authorisation was to become a member of a recognised self-regulating organisation. Such a body regulated the carrying on of investment business.

AFBD was an organisation which was a recognised self-regulating organisation.

Mordens applied for membership of AFBD. That application was refused and Mordens appealed.

A commissioner was appointed to hear the appeal.

By rule 3 of the AFBD rules "...at the hearing of the appeal the commissioner may adopt such procedures as he considers appropriate..."

The commissioner held a preliminary hearing to decide various procedural matters.

At that hearing the commissioner refused a request by Mordens that AFBD should disclose certain documents saying that he did not consider it reasonable that AFBD should disclose the documents.

The substantive hearing of the appeal began on September 25 1989. That hearing was required to be adjourned and rescheduled on November 15. In the interim period, solicitors for each side had corresponded.

It was revealed at the rescheduled hearing that AFBD had decided that disclosure of the documents requested by Mordens would damage its relationship with members and had resolved not to disclose the documents requested.

The commissioner reiterated that he would not order AFBD to make discovery of the documents indicating that he regarded the evidence as highly relevant and that he would have to take its absence into account in considering the appeal.

On November 15 the appeal was adjourned to allow Mordens the opportunity to seek judicial review of his decision not to order discovery of the documents as requested by Mordens.

His Lordship said that the commissioner had been charged with the duty of deciding an appeal against a refusal to admit a company to the AFBD.

Such powers as he had could only be derived from statute or agreement. There was no statute which gave him power to make an enforceable order for discovery.

His powers were derived from the AFBD rules by which both Mordens and AFBD agreed to be bound by participating in the process which the rules prescribed. No rule gave him power to make an enforceable order for discovery.

It was artificial to ask and unnecessary to decide whether the commissioner had power to make an enforceable order for discovery. If he had no such power his decisions were unchallengeable.

If he did have such power, the question was whether he was unreasonable in not exercising his power to make an enforceable order for discovery. The answer was plainly not.

Solicitors: Clifford Chance, Stephenson Harwood, Norton Rose.

Regina v Barnet London Borough Council, Ex parte Johnson and Another

Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Sir Patrick O'Connor [Judgment July 26]

A local authority acted beyond its powers in imposing the condition on organisation of a community festival to be limited to areas not part owned by the council as a condition and that "political activity whatsoever" was to take place at the festival.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by Barnet London Borough Council against a decision by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (The Times April 26, 1989, (1989) 88 LGR 73) granting an application by Gill Johnson and Sandra Jacobs, members of the East Finchley Community Festival Committee, for judicial review of the council's decision to impose such a condition on the committee's festival.

Mr Lionel Read, QC and Mrs Stephen Morgan for the council; Mr Alan Soden, QC, and Miss Beverley Lang for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS said that the ground was passed by the council's predecessors as a pleasure ground under the provisions of section 164 of the Public Health Act 1865.

The council, exercising the powers granted by section 164, made use of the grounds which were not for the purpose of regulating the enjoyment by the public of those grounds, the council exceeded its powers.

Notwithstanding that, in his Lordship's view, the Divisional Court rightly came to the conclusion that the apparently unlimited discretion provided in those articles must nevertheless be exercised for the purpose of regulating the enjoyment by the public of those grounds.

The powers granted under articles 7 and 8 of the Schedule clearly applied to the grounds and gave wide powers to the council to grant permissions and to attach conditions thereto.

Notwithstanding that, in his Lordship's view, the Divisional Court rightly came to the conclusion that the apparently unlimited discretion provided in those articles must nevertheless be exercised for the purpose of regulating the enjoyment by the public of those grounds.

Having reached that conclusion it was not strictly necessary to consider the other grounds upon which the Divisional Court had held that the conditions were unreasonable.

Solicitors: Mr G. R. Cresswell, Mr Paul Hunt.

Law Report September 7 1990

Political ban beyond council powers

poses for which they were conferred and if exercised for other purposes would be vulnerable to attack on Wednesbury principles of reasonableness (1948), R v. B. 22/23).

Mr Stanley submitted that neither of any of the provisions was there to be found statutory authority for the imposition of political conditions.

It was on that narrow point that the appeal turned.

Although the provision of the articles in the 1987 Act clearly expanded the purposes for which the council should regulate the use by the public of the grounds there was no provision in that Act giving power to the council to prohibit the personal conduct by individuals or groups of individuals as members of the public resorting to the ground provided that they did not transgress the existing by-laws.

Mr Read submitted that the Divisional Court had been wrong in holding that there was no power to impose conditions controlling the political use of the grounds.

He submitted that the council had wide powers which were to be found not only in section 164 but in the provisions of the Schedule to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Provisional Order Confirmation (Greater London Parks and Open Spaces) Act 1967.

The powers granted under articles 7 and 8 of the Schedule clearly applied to the grounds and gave wide powers to the council to grant permissions and to attach conditions thereto.

Notwithstanding that, in his Lordship's view, the Divisional Court rightly came to the conclusion that the apparently unlimited discretion provided in those articles must nevertheless be exercised for the purpose of regulating the enjoyment by the public of those grounds.

Having reached that conclusion it was not strictly necessary to consider the other grounds upon which the Divisional Court had held that the conditions were unreasonable.

The commissioners knew that there was a dispute and should have considered whether the taxpayer should be given an opportunity to meet the criticisms made of his accounts by the tax inspector.

Had the commissioners said that they had considered the letter from the accountants and on that basis had refused to adjourn, especially as it was a second hearing, then their conclusion could not have been criticised.

Had the commissioners said that they had submitted the accounts as not being in evidence at all. Then the taxpayer had been deprived of an opportunity to put his case.

The risk of injustice outweighed any inconvenience caused by a short adjournment.

The decision would thus be set aside and the case remitted to another panel of general commissioners for a re-hearing.

Solicitors: Deans-Wilson, Brighton; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

THE TIMES

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Margins squeezed at Senior

By MICHAEL TATE
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SENIOR Engineering Group, the specialist engineer, did better than most in the first half of 1990 to overcome the increasingly difficult trading conditions, but despite a 22 per cent rise in turnover, earnings per share went into reverse.

Turnover rose from £128 million to £157 million, but with margins under pressure from the fiercest competition, the improvement at the pre-tax profit level was just 7.2 per cent, at £8.1 million against £7.6 million.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1990																	
High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Gross Change % P/E	Vid	Yld	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Gross Change % P/E	Vid	Yld	P/E
74	36 ASEA Barer	28	28	28	-	-	-	-	129	125	AEG Abg Distr	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
113	25 AEG Schaeffler	22	22	22	-	-	-	-	124	122	Alcatel	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
61	14 Aéroport Par	13	13	13	-	-	-	-	120	119	Alcatel Sncf	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
24	55 Alcatel Sncf Hse	10	10	10	-	-	-	-	118	116	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
215	163 Acatl	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	115	114	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
29	14 Aeon Comp	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	114	113	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
85	53 Aeon Group	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	113	112	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
20	125 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	112	111	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
119	119 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	111	110	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
120	120 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	110	109	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
121	119 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	109	108	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
122	122 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	108	107	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
123	123 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	107	106	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
124	124 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	106	105	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
125	125 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	105	104	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
126	126 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	104	103	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
127	127 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	103	102	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
128	128 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	102	101	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
129	129 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	101	100	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
130	130 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	100	99	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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143	143 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	87	86	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
144	144 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	86	85	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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146	146 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	84	83	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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150	150 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	80	79	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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155	155 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	75	74	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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157	157 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	73	72	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
158	158 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	72	71	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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160	160 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	70	69	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
161	161 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	69	68	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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172	172 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	58	57	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
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179	179 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	51	50	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
180	180 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	50	49	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-	-
181	181 Alcatel Sncf Hse	15	15	15	-	-	-	-	49	48	Alcatel Sncf Hse	25	25	-1	-1	-</td	

ATHLETICS

Confident Hill sets sights on joining Backley at the top

From DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, KOBLENZ

NEVER mind Koblenz next year, Mick Hill was thinking as he reflected on his victory here in the javelin on Tuesday evening, the third division of the British League is going to be a tough one.

"We were relegated and they stayed up, so it could take 90 metres to win it," Hill said. "We are Leeds, Hill's club, and they are Cambridge Harriers, for whom Steve Backley, the world record holder, competes."

Eighty metres was enough for Hill, Backley's predecessor as the British record holder, to achieve his first international competition win for a year in the International Amateur Athletic Federation invitational meeting. He numbered among his victims Detlef Michel, the former world champion from East Germany. "Technically, I didn't throw very well, so it all bodes well for the future," Hill, who threw 80.14 metres, said. "There should be a lot more to come."

Hill was second to Backley in the Commonwealth Games in February before needing a third operation on his left knee. "In July I was going to

pack it in," he said. He could not throw farther than 60 metres, and his knee hurt in training. "The surgeon reassured me that I was not causing more damage, that I would just have to put up with the pain and eventually it would go. That was the turning point and it gave me a more positive attitude," Hill said.

In his four competitions since that consultation, Hill has not missed a throw, taking all six every time he has appeared. He has been consistent, too, never failing to exceed 80 metres, winning the Amateur Athletic Association title, finishing second in Zurich, fourth in the European championships, and first here.

"Just getting through six throws in one piece is good news for me," Hill said. His knee is not yet strong enough for him to rise to his full height at the point of release, but, after a hard winter's training, he expects it will be. "Hopefully this time next year Steve will be here and come second," Hill said. "I am not happy being second best to him."

Hill is a Backley clone: similar in appearance and

BRIDGE

Garozzo ends his seven-year wait

From ALBERT DORMER IN GENEVA

ROWING

Berrisford is back in training

SIMON Berrisford may yet be fit to compete in the world championships in Tasmania, which start on October 29. A back injury meant the Leander club sculler was replaced as Steve Redgrave's partner by his club colleague, Matthew Pinsent, for the trials.

The selectors had little choice but to break up the partnership which won a world coxed pairs silver medal in Split, Yugoslavia last year. But Berrisford's back has responded to treatment and he has returned to training.

"Simon's back is improving rapidly and he will be considered for a place in the team if he recovers completely," David Tanner, the Great Britain team coach, said.

But it is too late for Berrisford to resume his partnership with Redgrave. Pinsent has already been confirmed as Redgrave's partner for Tasmania.

SPORTS LETTERS

Bowlers need spice of variety

From Mr C. J. M. Kenny

Sir, It is not difficult to agree with the pundits that England's problem in Australia this winter is going to be bowling the opposition out. A number of bowlers have been on show this summer, but with the exception of Fraser, whose persistence with line, length and variation has brought its rewards, the others seem to find their talents fully ineffective.

One of the most surprising features, particularly where the wickets have favoured the batsmen, has been the apparent disinclination to use the crease — surely a simple yet valuable weapon in any bowler's armoury.

Neil Williams, with his natural ability to swing the ball away from the right-hander, encouraged me tremendously but

he seemed unable to adjust his line so that batsmen were obliged to play at the ball. Prabhakar showed us exactly how to overcome the problem by frequently slanting the outswinger into the off stump from the middle of the edge of the crease.

Some years ago Imran Khan surprised us with a number of off-breaks, with an off-stump ball, fixed rather late in its delivery, from the edge of the crease.

On most pitches in Australia our bowlers will need to employ all the subtleties of variation they can muster.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES KENNY,
Oak Tree House,
Claygate, Surrey.

NatWest failings

From Mr Emda Cullen

Sir, Alan Lee attempts (September 3) to explain and blame a poor NatWest Trophy final on Michael Hunt, the head groundsman at Lord's. The disappointing match was due to the inadequacy of Northamptonshire's ground. No doubt with selection for the Ashes series due to other excuses will abound as to the failure of well known batsmen.

A majority of NatWest matches has been won by the team batting second. It is folly to ascribe this to the Lord's wicket, which has played its part in showing us the best of English Test cricket this year.

Yours faithfully,
EMDA CULLEN,
16 Belfast Road, N16.

Record run total

From Mr Derck Collye

Sir, Mr Harrington (Sports Letters, August 30) does not seem to approve of Graham Gooch. However, it must be pointed out that the record broken this summer is based on the aggregate number of runs scored, not on the number of innings, the averages or whether it was a nice day or not.

Village cricket

From Mr Keith Auton

Sir, I fully endorse Robert Rome's village cricket rules (Sports Letters, August 30) but the fact is that Graham Gooch now holds the record for Test match runs scored during the summer.

At this one of them stated clearly: "Well, even I could have caught that one at mid-on."

Yours faithfully,
R. LINDEN-KELLY,
13 Spirit Quay,
Vaughan Way,
Wapping, E1.

There will always be a debate as to who is or was a better batsman, and romantic memories will always cloud the issue, but the fact is that Graham Gooch now holds the record for Test match runs scored during the summer.

Neither the BBC nor RSB have challenged us in the courts, and we understand that their legal advice on the Act conforms with our own. The piracy claim is therefore wrong.

What TV-am is now trying to do is to have a news access code of practice incorporated in the 1988 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act make it possible, in certain circumstances, for television now to use short clips from other sources to report news and current affairs events. The act does not require that permission is asked, or that credit of the source is given.

We took the action after leading barristers advised us that changes introduced in the 1988 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act make it possible, in certain circumstances, for television now to use short clips from other sources to report news and current affairs events. The act does not require that permission is asked, or that credit of the source is given.

On appealing for a (plumb) decision I was told: "Couldn't tell you, mate — I was lighting my fag."

Yours etc.
KEITH AUTON,
5 Humberstone Road,
Andover,
Hampshire.

On appealing for a (plumb) decision I was told: "Couldn't tell you, mate — I was lighting my fag."

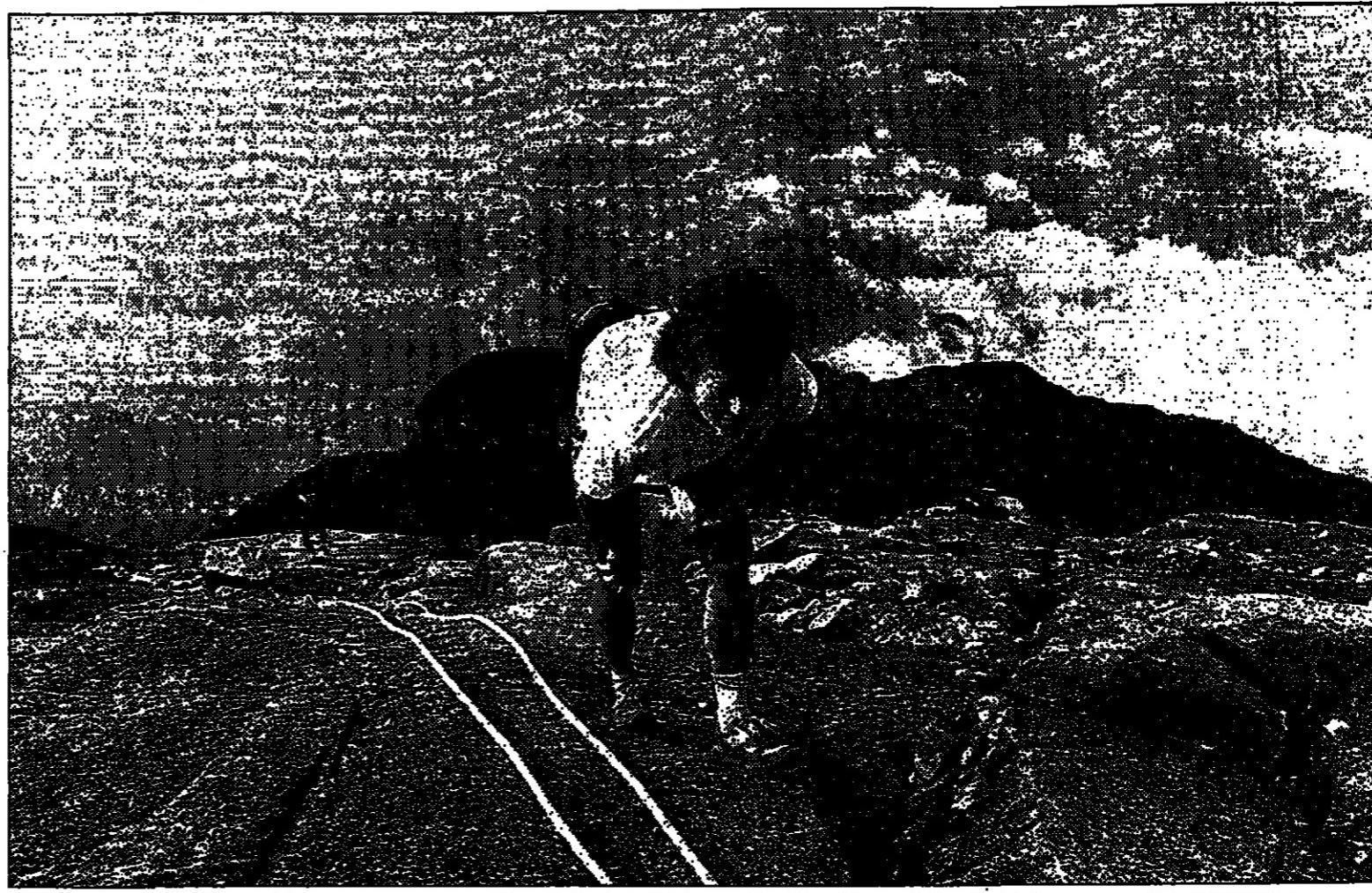
Yours faithfully,
G.A. EDSER,
2 Church Close, Alvestone,
Gosport, Hampshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046.

A remarkable runner discovers the sheer joy of scaling new heights

Diamantides rises to the challenge

ROBERT HOWARD



Up and running: Diamantides attempts to conquer Mount Kinabalu in Borneo. She did so in record time, but not everyone makes it to the top

By ROBERT HOWARD

HELENE Diamantides, a teacher from Kendal, is one of Britain's best mountain runners, but her first sight of Mount Kinabalu, rising to a sheer granite summit 13,455ft above the jungles of Borneo, left her weak at the juntas.

Diamantides, aged 25, had forsaken her home comforts for the uncertainties of a race named Climbathon '90 and held in the most exotic of locations. But even her formidable achievements around the world left her unprepared for the daunting sight of southeast Asia's highest peak.

As a former winner of the Guinness Mount Cameroon race, probably the hardest mountain race in the world, and the holder of the record for running the 167 miles from Everest base camp to Kathmandu in Nepal — in three days and ten hours — she has experience of running both at high altitudes and in equatorial heat.

These, plus races in the Algerian Sahara and many home-based records, including 19hr 11min for the round of 62 Lakeland peaks devised by Bob Graham, put her at the top of a sport in which every run is different, and no one is certain of completing any race.

Garozzo's reassertion of a brilliance some had thought burned out has pleased those who remember that his many successes were never tainted with the suspicion of less than fair practices which marred other players of the day.

come a national park, with a trail to the top of the mountain. It is unrelentingly steep, often requiring the use of rough wooden staircases as it climbs through forest bursting with flora and fauna.

At 11,000ft, dwarf rhododendrons give way to bare granite slabs and spectacular peaks which rim the 1,000ft deep Low's Gully. For the last 1,500ft, a rope provides security on the steep, wind-swept rocks, and tourists who tackle the climb take two days on the ascent. Not all make the top.

The Climbathon, which took place on September 1 and 2, is a 13-mile race up and down the mountain, with a direct ascent of more than 7,000ft. The record stood at three-and-a-half hours, and Diamantides faced strong local opposition.

Most of her opponents were Kadazan tribeswomen, descendants of head-hunters who now work as porters, some of them having climbed the mountain hundreds of times. Two New Zealand brothers also had the considerable advantage of arriving a week early to try to acclimatise to the oxygen-thin atmosphere at high altitude.

The race began at first light, and from the outset Diamantides proved a class above the opposition. "My confidence returned on the morning of the race and I was surprised it was such a slow start, so I pushed on," she

said. "I wanted to get well ahead so I wouldn't give the others a target to aim at, and because I expected to lose ground at the higher altitudes where I wasn't acclimatised."

The other runners never saw her again, except as she flew past them on the way down, and in a powerful display of running she took every challenge in her stride. Ricketts, ankle-twisting ladders, the pain of all-out effort at 13,000ft, exposure, and the danger of the granite slabs and the jarring, sustained descent that was to buckle the weary legs of so many runners.

Her winning time of 3hr 18min 58sec put her 30 minutes ahead of her nearest rival, and shattered the old record, in spite of the course being lengthened by a one-and-a-half-mile road run at the finish. It was a time that would have taken eleventh place in the men's international race the day before, and beaten Peter Dyneke, the international fell runner, aged 28, who had finished in 3hr 20min 24sec behind ten Gurkha soldiers to achieve the best British position in the history of the event.

All the Climbathons have been dominated by Gurkhas from the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, who train on the steep slopes around their Hong Kong base. Along with soldiers from the 10th Gurkha Rifles, stationed in nearby Brunei, they have taken the top 14 places in

the last two races. With their upbringing on the steep foothills of the Nepal Himalaya, and their army training, they are perfectly suited to hill running.

The winner, for the third time, was Sundra Kumar Linghop, who finished in 2hr 50min 03sec, just a stride ahead of Sunil Tamang. The prize money of \$4,500 is important to the Gurkhas, as the officer in charge of the team, Tim Coreth, explained: "It's about a year's pay to him, but he sends it all back to his wife and family in Nepal, and after three wins they must now be very well off indeed."

In spite of their success, the Gurkhas readily acknowledged they had been outshone by Diamantides this year, and she was delighted with her success. "It is a magnificent mountain, worth coming all this way to see on its own, and the race is a classic," she said. "It is high and hard, just the way it should be, but still very runnable. It was great to be able to race and still enjoy the scenery at the same time."

Any thoughts that she might rest on her laurels were quickly put aside, and this remarkable athlete turned to her next adventure. "I am going home via the Indian Himalayas, where I am joining an expedition to two unclimbed peaks. I will enjoy my running while I can, but in the future I'd really like to do more mountaineering."

RUGBY UNION

Robinson leads South-West for divisional experiment

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ANDY Robinson will lead an experimental divisional XV when the South-West play Leinster at Gloucester on Wednesday.

The Bath flanker takes over from Simon Halliday, his club colleague who is still recovering from an operation on a damaged ankle, a scratch which gives the divisional selectors an opportunity to scrutinise some new combinations.

At least, they hope they will. Jeremy Guscoff and Philip de Ganville have been chosen in the centre but Guscoff, who was married in July, has not yet returned from a delayed honeymoon, and de Ganville may be involved in Oxford University's preparations for their pre-term tour of the Far East.

With Richard Hill unavailable, Rupert Moon receives his first start, a return half an hour level while, in the absence of Nigel Redman, recovering from operations to both elbows, and John Etheridge, who has spent

the summer in Australia, the second row is occupied by John Morrison and John Brain.

Among the 60 players carded for the squad, the division will also keep an eye on Moon's colleague at Llanelli, Tony Copsey, a lock who is studying an opportunity to scrutinise some new combinations.

The problem posed by Jonnys' availability for divisional rugby can be set aside — for the time being. By the time he had confirmed his readiness to play, next week's XV had been more or less decided. The South-West will not play again until the ADT divisional championship proper on December 1, when they meet the Midlands at Leicester.

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the summer in Australia, the second row is occupied by John Morrison and John Brain.

London, the champions, open the divisional season at the Stoop Memorial ground, where they will play both their home games. London's only activity before

December is likely to be in the form of a B game against the South-West on October 30.

ADT Security Systems, the new sponsors of the Rugby Football Union's divisional and county championships, will extend their support to the game at Gloucester next week as well as this Sunday's match at St Ives, when Cornwall play the touring Ontario side.

South-West DIVISION v Leinster: J. Callard; J. Fallon, J. Guest, P. de Ganville, A. Hall, M. Hassell (all Bath); M. Haskins (Gloucester); B. Heath, K. Denz, P. Jones, M. Tegg (all Gloucester); J. Morrison (Bristol); J. Brain (Oxford); A. Redman (Bath), captain; D. Groom (Llanelli); R. Hall (Bristol); P. Hall (Gloucester); R. Pascall (Gloucester); G. Lowe (Bath); S. Newman (Harlequins).

London IRISH inaugurate their floodlights at Sunbury tonight against a team from a Public School. Wanderers' XV, which includes nine internationals. The match will also be a tribute to the late Charles Burton, who helped found Wanderers.

Richmond upset over Roberts loss

absolutely clear with regard to any selectorial prejudices they may hold."

The Rugby Football Union has denied any official encouragement of an "elite six" but it is part of a by-product of the league system that players will identify which clubs are an issue of growing concern, and we believe it would be helpful if this intention to move.

Last month, when Jason Leonard, the Saracens loose-

forward prop, was dropped by England in Argentina, moved to Harlequins. John Hegagdon, the Saracens president-elect, suggested that an elite group of clubs was being established in the country.

In a statement, Richmond said yesterday: "The movement of players between clubs is an issue of growing concern, and we believe it would be helpful if this intention to move.

Halves ensure tour success for Stonyhurst

STONYHURST'S world tour, which took in Singapore, Australia, Fiji and Los Angeles, entailed nine flights and seven fixtures against strong opposition, six in Australia and one in Fiji (Michael Stevenson writes).

The trip was an unqualified success, with Kieran Bracken, selected for the newly formed Anglo-Irish squad, and his England 18 group half-back partner, Vince Gradias, outstanding.

RESULTS: Beat Northern Territories, 12-10; beat Cairns and District, 20-4; lost to Brisbane, 17-12; beat Townsville, 24-10; beat Sydney, 21-10; beat St. George College, 25-21; lost to St. Ignatius College, 16-10; lost to Edmund Rice, 16-10.

King's, Macclesfield, who enjoyed an excellent season

Auckland, 17-12; beat Rangiora College, Canterbury, 17-4; beat Canterbury College, 15-6; beat Canterbury, 15-6; lost to St. Aloysius College, Sydney, 30-12.

RESULTS: Beat Canterbury, 15-6; beat Canterbury, 15-6; lost to St. Aloysius College, Sydney, 30-12.

Negligent to regain winning thread

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

NOW that she is back to somewhere near her best, Negligent, from Barry Hill's super-fit Wifelife stable, should prove equal to winning the Reference Point Strenseal Stakes at York today.

A variety of niggling setbacks have restricted her to two races this season. Considering everything, her third place in the 1,000 Guineas in the spring was a thoroughly good performance because she had not experienced the trouble-free run-up to the classic that both Salsabil and Heart Of Joy, the eventual first and second, had enjoyed.

Negligent was not seen

again until she contested the Juddmonte International Stakes on today's track last month when she was not disgraced in finishing seventh behind Fennel at Newmarket.

However, demonstrable and bold Ambition, the other members of the four-strong racing party from Manton, seem likely to put in their place by Barrymore (2.35) and Secret Society (3.40) respectively.

Barrymore, my choice for the Go Racing in Yorkshire Maiden Stakes, is long overdue a win, having finished second in all his races so far.

Well that Bold Ambition should go in the Sunlife of Canada Garrowby Limited Handicap, I still doubt him being able to concede a stone

triggered off by Grand Prix

Hills on the Knavesmire this afternoon following that promising initial run behind Fennel at Newmarket.

Victory for Secret Society would draw attention to Janine's chance of winning the Salisbury Festival Handicap on the Wiltsheath track later in the afternoon as Janine finished a length in front of Subtle Change in the Levy Board Maiden Fillies' Stakes after showing the requisite promise on her debut the same afternoon.

However, I just prefer Torcello, who will appreciate this drop in distance having been just outstayed by Secret Water and Shambu over 1½ miles at Goodwood last time.

If my information from Newmarket proves correct the EBF Wesssex Stallions Maiden Fillies' Stakes should be won by Hawaii Al Barr. By all accounts she has inherited an abundance of ability from her sire, the promising first-season stallion, Green Desert.

(3.50) and completed by Subtle Change (5.50).

Grand Prix is napped to win the Eldridge Pope Handicap, having won by five lengths over course and distance three weeks ago, while Subtle Change has a good chance of winning the Levy Board Maiden Fillies' Stakes after showing the requisite promise on her debut the same afternoon.

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Balding has US plan for leading hurdlers

By RICHARD EVANS

MORLEY Street and Forest Sun, two of Toby Balding's top jumpers, are set to make their debuts on the Flat in preparation for an autumn raid in the United States.

The Fyfield trainer has recruited an amateur rider's race at Ayr's western meeting in two weeks' time and a two-mile conditions race at Goodwood early in October for his two stable stars.

Although Morley Street and Forest Sun won five National Hunt flat races between them before commencing highly successful hurdles careers, neither has run under Flat rules.

Morley Street, winner of the Sandeman Aintree Hurdle, is being aimed at the Breeders' Cup Chase at Belmont on October 20 while Forest Sun, winner of the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at the Cheltenham festival, will travel over for the first leg of the Sport of Kings Challenge.

Balding outlined these plans to the other British Thoroughbred Racing and Breeding Pic (BTB) of which he is joint managing director, disclosed accumulated debts of almost £3 million.

BTB was the first members' club offering racehorse ownership to large numbers at a relatively low cost and Balding believes that being a pioneer was partly responsible for its financial success.

"We were the first and that was our downfall," Balding said yesterday. "We were formed in the guise of a pic and consequently we could not wind up every two years and raise fresh money. What killed us was having to service 5,000 shareholders of which 3,000 lost interest within 18 months. We were servicing them with no sort of income."

He pledged to keep the concept of BTB alive, although the public company is likely to be wound up next September. A directors' meeting agreed that Balding and fellow managing director, Trevor Bishop, should buy assets of BTB, including the club's telephone helpline.

Jennie's Gem has now won three of her four starts for the in-form Newmarket trainer, Ken Boss. "We tried her over six furlongs last time out," he said. "I told her to hold her up because she didn't like it and ran very disappointingly."

In the first of three competitive handicaps, the Batley's Cash & Carry Stakes, Rock Face was made 6-4 favourite to win her fourth race off the reel but two furlongs from home George Duffield was in trouble as

Timeless Times is thwarted in tilt at outright record

By MICHAEL SEEY
RACING CORRESPONDENT

TIMLESS Times's blinkered horse was bloody but unbowed after Bill O'Gorman's two-year-old had finished third to Jenny's Gem in the Best Buy Products Stakes at York yesterday.

"The five furlongs was a bit too sharp for him on a flat track," said the trainer after Tuesday's Postscript scorer had failed to record his seventeenth victory and become the winning-most two-year-old in British racing history. "He was staying on when the race was over and I won't have done him any harm."

Timless Times, a well-backed 7-2 chance, broke smartly but was soon being outpaced and had five horses in front of him at half-way.

Sharpshooter, the even-money favourite, weakened entering the last furlong and Jennie's Gem, having made all the running in the hands of Pat Eddeley, kept on strongly to beat Rock Face by ½ length.

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Highflying stormed clear to beat Locust Derby by three lengths. Alan Harrison's gelding has now won five of his last seven starts and has the Bogsie Cup at Ayr and the William Hill November Handicap as possible targets.

The six-furlong Lawrence Bailey Handicap was won by Masnum, whom John Reid brought sweeping down the straight in the final furlong to beat Bertie Wooster by a length.

This convincing victory compensated Roland O'Sullivan and connections for their disappointment in the Stewards' Cup, where the five-year-old was backed from 25-1 to 12-1 before finishing fourth to Knight Of Mercy.

Bertie Wooster ran a fine trial for Scotland's richest handicap and his price was cut from 35-1 to 12-1 by bookmakers. His sponsors, who have a bet of £100,000 on the race, are the Merchant Taylors' School and the Royal Hospital School.

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Hellenic, the Yorkshire Stud's horse, still has the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe as an alternative target. "Everything depends on him," said Michael Stoute.

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As the day of judgment approaches, John Goodbody sees more than blind optimism in Manchester's vision for the future

A city clinging defiantly to its Olympic dream

FOUR years ago, Birmingham bid to stage the 1992 Olympic Games. Barcelona secured the nomination. Birmingham was fifth of the six cities. Undeterred, Manchester is trying to bring the 1996 Olympics to Britain. It will know its fate on September 18, when the 88 members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) cast their votes in Tokyo.

The Manchester delegation will feature the Princess Royal, the president of the British Olympic Association and an IOC member; Mary Glen Haig, the other IOC member from Britain; Bob Scott, the chairman of the bid; Chris Patten, the environment secretary, and Graham Stringer, the leader of Manchester city council.

The voting is expected to be an open contest among all six candidates: Athens, Atlanta, Belgrade, Melbourne, Toronto and Manchester. Will Manchester win? The answer is, almost certainly no.

Scott says he will be "calm whatever the result". His principal worries have been that the bid would cost more than its budget of £3 million (which is highly unlikely), and that Manchester would be "annihilated" by the poll. Now, he can foresee a situation in which Manchester



could win — or be beaten very badly, that the IOC members may like the candidature, but not enough to vote for it.

There is another line of thought that has Manchester as a second favourite with many members, however, as the centre parties in British politics have found, this does not win general elections.

The system of voting is that after each round, the candidate with the least number of votes withdraws, until one city gets more than half the total number of votes. It is difficult to see a pattern in the voting. There is no obvious choice for the Spanish or French-speaking blocs, for the east European ones, now less uniform as a group, or for the Africans. Western Europe could be attracted by both Athens and Manchester;

the Commonwealth members could be split between Toronto, Melbourne and Manchester.

Athens is slight favourite, largely on nostalgic grounds (it was host to the first modern Olympics, in 1896), but it is being pressed hard by Atlanta. The American city's strongest card is the greater income for the IOC from United States television for programmes at peak viewing time — income that would provide the Olympic movement with reserves well into the 21st century.

Melbourne is seen as capable of staging a fine Olympics, but Australia is regarded by some IOC members as being too far from the centre of international sporting activity.

Manchester has concentrated its efforts to attract votes on recent months rather than "peaking" too soon. Rick Parry, the director of the bid, says that he has felt "mild irritation" at criticisms of the low-key approach in 1989. The strategy was carefully prepared after de-briefing the committees of Barcelona and Lillehammer, the successful candidates for the summer Games of 1992 and the winter Games of 1994. These interviews were something the other 1996 candidates did not bother to have.

Because Birmingham entered

the bidding for 1992 so late, it had only 35 IOC members visiting the city. Manchester has had 60. One important feature, says Parry, was to demonstrate that the reality of Manchester was better than its image of the industrial revolution.

Initially, Manchester, and the northwest generally, had to demonstrate to IOC members its capability of organising the Games, and of having the necessary financial backing, infrastructure and potential for development. Like the other candidate cities, Manchester satisfied these criteria, despite the absence of a

large number of facilities, particularly a main stadium.

However, Manchester has tried to capitalise on this, arguing that the IOC can give the opportunity for the facilities to be built for the people of the region to enjoy Olympic sports. As Scott said: "It is a vision for the future."

The question occupying the IOC members in Tokyo, Parry considers, will no longer be whether Manchester can stage the Games that has been satisfied. Now, members have to ponder why they should vote for Manchester. Parry thinks

PROSPECTIVE VENUES

THE centre of the Manchester Olympic Games would be at Barton Cross, a 1,000-acre site 15 minutes by car from the city centre and situated on the banks of the Manchester Ship Canal. This would include the athletics stadium, an 80,000-all-seater venue with everyone under cover. Next to it would be the stadium for swimming, diving and water polo and a 20,000-seater indoor arena for gymnastics. A few minutes' walk away would be the Olympic village and the main press centre. Preliminary rounds of football

would be staged at the grounds of Manchester United, Liverpool.

Everton and Manchester City, while the equestrian events would be at Haydock Park racecourse and Tatton Park. The yachting would be at Tremadog Bay on the north Welsh coast and the rowing on a new, man-made course of the River Dee near Chester. Archery, modern pentathlon and shooting would be in the same area. Boxing would be at the Zerri arena, now under construction at Huncote, 20 minutes by car north of

Manchester, and judo at the Platt Fields modular arena to be built by Manchester City next to Maine Road.

financial support to the bid, is convinced that seeking to stage the Games has brought Manchester "back to the lips of people".

He cites an example: A year ago, in Tokyo, he was addressing a group of Japanese businessmen who were considering investing in the northwest of England. The IOC member in Japan was present and, quite unsolicited, spoke of Manchester's Olympic bid. "The return in public relations and overseas awareness," he said, "has been tremendous."

Clester said: "It would have needed an international advertising campaign worth far more than £3 million to gain similar results."

The bid has also given the city self-confidence. Property has risen in value, and people are looking to Manchester to provide services that previously London would have supplied.

However, Manchester insists it is bidding for the Games for sporting, not economic, reasons. Clester talks of the "passion for sport in the region". It is also an opportunity to bind the country together. Manchester is the venue for the British Games. They could unify people and provide facilities for the future. Besides which, I think we can do the best job."

EQUESTRIANISM

Thompson pacing King Boris nearer a Burghley crown

By JENNY MACARTHUR

MARY Thompson, who became the national horse trials champion at Gatcombe Park last month, will attempt to add the Remy Martin Trophy to her list of successes when she competes at the Burghley Remy Martin Horse Trials, which start today.

Thompson is one of a handful of riders who will compete with two horses — King Boris, her national champion, and the 13-year-old King Cuthbert, a former winner of Bramham and eighth at Badminton this year, who will be ridden by his mother, Mary.

Catcombe last month, Stark has also secured a chance ride on King Boris.

The 30-strong entry — though fewer than usual because of the closeness to the world championships in Stockholm last month — is not lacking in quality. Blyth Tait, the world champion from New Zealand, heads the entry list. Other contenders include his competitor, Mark Todd, the double Olympic champion, Ian Stark, the winner of the team and individual silver medals in Stockholm.

Richard Walker, winner of Burghley in 1980 and 1982, Robert Lemieux, a former national champion, and Anne-Marie Taylor Evans, two of the reserves for Stockholm, and Pippa Nolan, the runner-up to Thompson at Gatcombe, are others in the field.

The most notable absence is Virginia Leng, the European champion, who has won at Burghley five times. Although her horse, Master Craftsman, has recovered from the injury which kept him out of the world championships, there was not sufficient time to prepare him.

Leng will be on-hand to give advice to Thompson, who, having been left out of the team for Stockholm, is determined to produce a good performance so it will be impossible for the selectors to overlook King Boris' claims for a place at next year's European championship.

Although the 11-year-old gelding lacks speed he is one of the most consistent cross-country performers as he proved when

finishing third and second at the past two Badminton.

Thompson's main rivals are likely to be Tait and Stark. Tait, at Burghley for the first time, is riding the New Zealand-bred Ricochet, on which he won the Scottish championship last month. Stark's best hope of winning his first Burghley title lie with Charlie Brown, who was third at Saumur in France last summer, and finished ninth at Gatcombe last month. Stark has also secured a chance ride on King Boris.

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runner-up to Thompson at Gatcombe, are others in the field.

Mark Phillips, the course designer, describes this year's course as "basically the Euro-

pean championship course of last year, but with the stings taken out of it." More than 80 per cent of the fences have easier, but time-consuming, alternatives.

To alleviate the firm going

300 tons of sand have already

been laid on the course providing a sand track on the four-mile cross country phase. Post has also been laid on the landing side of the drop fences and, most significantly, the stings "ridge and furrow" going at the beginning and end of the course has been levelled out.

The event, which starts with the dressage, also includes the final of the Burghley Young Event Horse series, designed to encourage the training of young event horses.

Rachel Hunt, Karen Straker and Lucinda Henson, the daughter of the Burghley director, Bill Henson, are among the riders who have qualified for the final.

CROQUET

Australian unbeaten

GEORGE Latham, aged 48, a teacher from Victoria, Australia, visited Jerry Goss yesterday to become the only unbeaten player in the first stage of the Continental Airlines World Championships at Nottingham, London (a Special Corres-

pondent writes).

Carolyn Spooner nearly sur-

prised Steve Mulliner to earn a

play-off place against Jerry

Goss, who completed his

first and second at the

final of the Gatcombe Park

event.

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Rothiemay v Huddersfield (7.00). OVERNIGHT PAPERS COMBINATION: West Ham v Merton (7.00).

CRICKET

Tour match: 10.20, 104 over minimum.

HOME: Sussex v Sri Lankans (2.30pm).

OTHER MATCH

SCARBOROUGH FESTIVAL: Yorkshire v The Yorkshiremen (2.30pm).

FOOTBALL

SECOND DIVISION: Theasis Somerset v Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Herefordshire (2.30pm). NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v Birmingham: The County (2.30pm). SURREY v Lancashire: Gloucestershire v Worcester, Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire, York v Kent (2.30pm).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB: London Irish v Public School Wanderers (2.30pm).

YACHTING

INTERNATIONAL 14s (Abenro).

SPORT ON TV

ATHLETICS

18.30-19.30: Highlights of the Sun Life Grand Prix.

19.30: Men's long jump.

20.00: Women's 100m.

20.30: Men's 110m hurdles.

21.00: Women's 200m.

21.30: Men's 400m.

22.00: Men's 4x100m relay.

22.30: Men's 4x400m relay.

23.00: Men's 1500m.

23.30: Men's 110m.

24.00: Men's 400m.

24.30: Men's 400m relay.

25.00: Men's 100m.

25.30: Men's 200m.

26.00: Men's 400m.

26.30: Men's 400m relay.

27.00: Men's 110m.

27.30: Men's 200m.

28.00: Men's 400m.

28.30: Men's 400m relay.

29.00: Men's 100m.

29.30: Men's 200m.

30.00: Men's 400m.

30.30: Men's 400m relay.

31.00: Men's 100m.

31.30: Men's 200m.

32.00: Men's 400m.

32.30: Men's 400m relay.

33.00: Men's 100m.

33.30: Men's 200m.

34.00: Men's 400m.

34.30: Men's 400m relay.

35.00: Men's 100m.

35.30: Men's 200m.

36.00: Men's 400m.

36.30: Men's 400m relay.

37.00: Men's 100m.

37.30: Men's 200m.

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Elland Road rumours over a transfer are dismissed as nothing but nonsense

Jones vows to fight for place

By MARTIN SEARBY

SPECULATION that Vimy Jones will be leaving Leeds United was quashed yesterday when the former Wimbledon player said he wanted to remain with the Yorkshire club which signed him last summer for £650,000 fee.

Jones, aged 25, played in all but three of Leeds' 53 League and cup matches last season but his omission from the start of the first division programme has linked him name with Wimbledon, Chelsea, Sheffield United and, most recently, Wolverhampton Wanderers.

"I'm not going to pretend I'm not disappointed at being out of the side because I am," he said. "So would any other player but that doesn't mean I'm about to march into the manager's office and ask for a move. I'm training as hard as I can, and I want to get back into the team on merit."

"It's nonsense for anyone to claim I have set a deadline for

a transfer request. I'm not a whinger and it is not Vimy Jones's style to go complaining to the manager as soon as he is not in the team."

Jones, a fierce competitor on the field, has made an impressive contribution off it and, although he makes no claims himself, has done a large amount of work for the disadvantaged in the city.

He points out that the same thing has happened to Peter Beardsley at Liverpool, and said: "When David Batty was left out of the [Leeds] side last season, there was only the odd paragraph in the papers — but I get all this. It certainly doesn't help me and, frankly, it gets on my nerves."

Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, has made it clear he needs a squad with quality in depth for their first campaign in the top flight for eight years. Of the latest rumour involving a Wolves bid, he said: "Their manager

Wright delights club with four-year pledge

IAN Wright has snubbed the big clubs hoping to lure him from Selhurst Park by signing a four-year contract with Crystal Palace.

Wright, on standby for England's international against Hungary next week, has tied himself to Palace until he is 30.

Ron Noades, the Crystal Palace chairman, said yesterday: "I am absolutely delighted Ian wants to stay with us. His decision shows he believes Palace are in the best position to stay. If we decided to sell him, there would be a race to get him."

Noades declined to reveal financial details, but the deal could be worth up to £500,000 for Wright: the FA Cup final hero who was still playing non-league football for Greenwich Borough six years ago.

Wright, one of the quickest forwards in the first division, scored 11 goals for Palace last season, despite being absent for

some time with a stress fracture to his shin. His 24 league goals in 1988-9 helped Palace gain promotion to the first division.

Eli Ohana's dreams of playing for Brian Clough could have been ended by a hamstring injury. The Israeli international forward, aged 26, who is on a fortnight's trial at Nottingham Forest, was injured during a reserve fixture against Liverpool at Anfield on Tuesday.

He failed to appear for the second team, too, in the First Reserve team's 2-0 win over the youth team.

Steve Stride, the Villa secretary, has already flown out to check on accommodation for the second leg on October 3.

● The Republic of Ireland are to make a two-match trip to the United States next year.

They are likely to tour in late May or early June, and will play in either New York or Boston against the country which hosts the 1994 World Cup finals.

● A Football League tribunal has ordered Notts County to pay compensation to Scarborough, of the fourth division, for the signatures of the 16-year-old players, Richard Ward and Philip Hill.

The pair signed for County

as Youth Training Scheme trainees in the summer after being on associate schoolboy forms with Scarborough.

The tribunal decided that County must initially pay £2,500 for the two, £10,000 each if they play five first-team games, £12,500 if they make 25 senior appearances and £25,000 if they appear 50 times.

"El is not match-fit, so he will probably go back to Israel and try to get himself back in shape. If he does, there is always the possibility of us having another look at him."

Bruce faces three-game ban

By LOUISE TAYLOR

THE professional foul re-surfaced at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday night when Steve Bruce became the first player in the first division this season to be sent off for deliberately fouling an opponent in order to prevent him from scoring.

The Manchester United defender will be suspended for three matches for his foul on Ian Dowie of Luton Town in the first half. Despite being reduced to ten men, United still managed to win 1-0, courtesy of a 23-yard-magic goal from Mark Robins, who had displaced Mark Hughes.

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, had no complaints about the sending-off. "Steve had to go, the referee had no choice. I am one of the people

Graham Turner, has not mentioned anything about it to me. Jones remains an important member of the club."

● Jozef Venglos, the Aston Villa manager, will go on a spying mission to his native Czechoslovakia this weekend. Venglos and John Ward, his assistant manager, will run the rule over Villa's UEFA Cup opponents, Banik Ostrava, when they play FC Nitra on Sunday.

Ward said: "We had them watched at Coventry last month and have gathered together one or two pieces of information from the manager's contacts out there."

Now, we can see for ourselves what they are like and by the time of the first leg at Villa Park on September 19, we will be well acquainted with them."

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probably go back to Israel and try to get himself back in shape. If he does, there is always the possibility of us having another look at him."

The first round, second leg of the Rumbelow Cup offered Aldershot a chance to accrue some much-needed money, following their near demise during the summer. First they

POLO

Six-goal Hipwood too strong for Stilemans

By JOHN WATSON

SHEIKH Alhammadi's team, Palmer, beat Goffey Lawson's Stilemans 6-1 when the Guards Club's medium-goal amateur tournament resumed at Smiths Lawn, Windsor Great Park, yesterday.

The League C encounter was dominated by Palmer's No. 3, Howard Hipwood, who plays off a handicap of nine and, at medium-goal level, is inclined to monopolise the ball. He was well served, too, in the forward element by Wood and Barlow, although the game rarely opened up, with players too often galloping in a huddle.

Stilemans were pivoted on the Argentine six-goal player, Zimmerman, who was usefully backed by Graham. When they managed to elude Hipwood, Stilemans made many forceful attacks, but suffered more than their share of near misses. Hipwood scored all of Palmer's six goals, but in the last minute

Graham broke Stilemans' duck from a pass by Zimmerman. The tally was 6-1½ in the handicap category.

The second match, in League D, resulted in a 5-2 victory for Bill Bond-Elliott's Santic Fe against K. M. Khan's Quaidia (3½-2). A handicap of 11½ was a mismatch, as Santic Fe, with its right-handers, was closely defended, goal-mouths. Boreford, who formed a firm partnership with the New Zealander, Edgar, opened Santa Fe's account with a 30-yarder.

Scherer, Quadriga's American No. 2, responded, but Santa Fe never lost their advantage.

Neither side took advantage

of the first round, second leg of the Rumbelow Cup offered Aldershot a chance to accrue some much-needed money, following their near demise during the summer. First they

had to dispose of Southend United, however, and the players proved unequal to the task.

They could do no better than draw 2-2 at the Recreation Ground, losing 3-2 on aggregate.

Darlington, members of the GM Vauxhall Conference last season, can look forward to a second-round meeting with a second-round meeting with rather more glamorous opposition after a 2-1 win at Bloomfield Road.

Northampton Town, of the fourth division, can already claim a sizeable scalp, having seen off Brightling, of the second, 3-1 on aggregate. Similarly Torquay United, also of the fourth division, enjoyed a 3-2 aggregate success over Bristol Rovers, champions of the third

division, in the qualifying round in Trabzon yesterday.

Bray's part-timers held the Turks 1-1 in Ireland, but went 2-0 down in the second-leg Trabzonspor's goals game from Cukic after 48 minutes and handily 63 minutes at Bloomfield Road.

Trabzonspor are left with a demanding first-round test against FC Barcelona in Trabzon on September 19. The return will be played on October 3.

● Paul Hart, the manager of Chesterfield, banished to the stand by the referee and re-

HOCKEY

England pay the penalty

From SYDNEY FRISKIN IN KREFELD

West Germany U-21..... 3

England U-21..... 1

ENGLAND lost ground in the first match of the Three Nations Cup at under-21 level, eventually yielding to West Germany in a match of high quality yesterday after taking the lead.

It was a disappointing start for England, who left the field pondering the consequences of wasting a penalty stroke which would have enabled them to draw level at 2-2.

Whereas the Germans acquired a level of efficiency slightly above their station, England were by no means out-shone. Defending stubbornly and attacking strongly they made the opposition work hard for possession and gave them some alarming moments.

Neither side took advantage

of the first round, second leg of the Rumbelow Cup offered Aldershot a chance to accrue some much-needed money, following their near demise during the summer. First they

ever did not strike his shot properly and the goalkeeper made an easy save.

The Germans then began to gain the upper hand. England were under pressure to concede a short corner in the 26th minute but the danger was averted with Mason again coming to the rescue to save.

England's joy, however, was short-lived. Four minutes later Kraus nipped in on the left to score after Mason had saved from Warwic. In the 31st minute, a superbly made combination with a centre from the right put West Germany ahead.

The first ten minutes of the second half were spent by England in strenuous effort to level the score. They earned their penalty stroke in the thirteenth minute of this period after the Germans had been penalised for stick obstruction in front of goal as Gibbs was running through. Gibbs, how-

ever, did not strike his shot properly and the goalkeeper made an easy save.

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